

Ancestors, Descendants, and Extended Families of
John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester

Volume 1

By Lorraine E. Schmidt

Ancestors, Descendants, and Extended Families of John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester of Gravesend, Milton, and Northfleet, Kent, England

Volume 1

John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester,
their first two children, Vernon and Annie,
and the descendants of these children

By Lorraine E. Schmidt



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The pages of Volumes 1-4 are numbered continuously through the four volumes, with one Table of Contents at the beginning of Volume 1 and an Index at the end of Volume 4.

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Introduction

This is the first of a series of books that tells the stories of many Gravesend, Milton, Northfleet and Southfleet families who are ancestors, descendants and "cousins" of my great-grandparents, John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester. Although their ancestors came from other parts of England, they married and raised their family in Gravesend along with many of their siblings. Some of those descendants immigrated to South Africa, France, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States. I descend from one who immigrated to the United States. This book and the subsequent volumes include over 15,000 people related to my paternal great-grandparents from Gravesend. Therefore, Volumes 1 and 2 begin with John Henry Henderson, his wife Ann Craggs Silvester, their descendants and spouses. The end of Volume 2 and Volumes 3 and 4 include the supplemental family information for those spouses. At the end of Volume 4 is the Index of family members named in Volumes 1-4. Volume 5 is John Henry Henderson's Diaries for 1876, 1886-1891, and 1893-1894. Future volumes tell the stories of the Silvesters and the Hendersons and their extended families.

As Gravesend is located on the south bank of the Thames River about 22 miles east of London, many of the men in my family had occupations connected to the river, such as waterman, lighterman, and Trinity House Pilot. Many were licensed victuallers. A few were connected to Springhead Gardens in Southfleet and the chalk quarry industry in Northfleet.

I hope this book will be of interest to others who find family members among the people included here. I did not fully research and document the lives of all of them. Although I have attempted to be as accurate as possible in citing dates, names and places, I apologize for any errors you find and hope you will enjoy taking the research forward for others.

During my 45 years of research, I have received help from dozens of very supportive people. Among them are Steve Archer, Kathleen Barry, Sara Bunnett, Dawn Chambers, Wynn Christensen, Jeanette Conacher, Grace Crowhurst, Bob Daniel, Marion Fenn, Michael Gandy, Jill Garrett, Eric Green, Ruth Greet, Silvia Henderson, Vernon Taylor Henderson, Jill Keefe, Barbara Maher, Lesley McCarthy, Trevor Moore, Pat O'Brien, Terry and Margaret Owen, Kate Silvester, Sydney Smith, Mary Woodthorpe, and many more. The beautiful title page art is by Adrian Hern. All of the photographs dated 2014 of houses and churches in Gravesend and Northfleet and of tombstones were taken by Steve Archer, for which I am very grateful. Additionally, Steve Archer photographed all the Tulk family photographs and documents at the Gravesend Historical Society in 2016.

These volumes would not be possible without my outstanding and patient assistant Patty Ault who organized files, scanned documents and photographs, took photographs, helped research complicated families, typed John Henry Henderson's diaries, helped compose text and eliminate duplications, and collaborated on every detail of this project. We laughed and cried together on many occasions, and it is safe to say she knows more about my family than she will ever know about her own! I will be forever grateful for her help.

The Geography

Without getting into too much detail regarding England's nomenclature surrounding its ancient parishes/towns/boroughs and so on, it is enough to know that Gravesend, Milton, Northfleet, and Southfleet were neighboring ecclesiastical parishes. The town of Gravesend was chartered in 1268 and as it grew, it expanded across High Street/Windmill Street into the parish of Milton. As a result, areas in the greater Gravesend area have been referred to as Gravesend, Milton, Milton-next-Gravesend, Milton-by-Gravesend, and Milton-near-Gravesend. Milton is seldom used alone, as there is also a Milton-next-Sittingbourne in Kent. Although the Northfleet settlement existed in Roman times, it was not chartered until 1874, but then merged with the Gravesend borough in 1974. Rosherville and Perry Street are neighborhoods within the town of Northfleet. Southfleet is a small village.

You cannot assume I made an error or your family member moved when you encounter different versions of place names. Town and county names for life events can differ even when a relative never left their birthplace. England's layers of administrative and ceremonial governance contribute to frequent boundary and name changes. Modern day London overlaps towns of several counties including Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and London. The County of Greater London established in 1965 encompasses

parts of several older counties. The city of Melbourne, Australia, was part of New South Wales until Victoria was established in 1851. New South Wales and Victoria were still colonies, later called "states" when the Commonwealth of Australia was formed in 1901. Life events in Australia and New Zealand shown in the book seldom include county names but usually include country name, even if it was not yet technically established at the time of the event.

Helpful Hints

Censuses, the 1939 England & Wales Register, city directories, electoral rolls, and passenger lists are sources which show addresses, names of occupants, ages, occupations, etc. I generally put these sources in the father/husband's notes. After his death, these sources will be in the mother/wife's notes. When the husband is shown in a census working away from home but is with the wife and children in later years, I usually put his and her censuses for the separated year together in his notes. For single adults, always check the parents' notes to see if they are shown there for the years before their marriages.

Marriage information is listed in the husband's notes. A plus sign (+) to the left of a child's name means they had children.

Assume a location refers to England unless stated otherwise. The exception to this would be that I do not continually repeat the country name within the notes of a person obviously established in another country. Within England, assume county of Kent when no other county has been referenced. In a census entry, after a town and its county are named, the county name will not be repeated for that town.

(Notes in parenthesis) are used to flag questionable spellings or illegible words, add geographical information, add dates, etc.

[Notes in brackets] are my remarks providing additional information, pointing out a discrepancy, correcting a spelling, or clarifying details.

No birth dates are included for persons living at the time of publication.

In the 1841 UK Census, the ages of people over 15 years old were to be rounded down to the nearest 5 years. For example, a 19-year-old would be shown as 15, and a 24-year-old would be listed as 20. However, these instructions were not always followed.

County of Registration: Over the years, the names and boundaries of registration districts and county names have changed, making it a challenge to know exactly where events occurred. Ancestry.com shows the word "Inferred" before the county name(s) when describing where some events were registered. I do not include the word "inferred" here. In some cases, where two county names are listed and I have not been able to determine definitively where the event occurred, I have omitted the county name altogether. In a few cases, where I was sure the event occurred in a different county, I stated that county. In most cases, I stated the county provided by Ancestry.com.

Event Dates: For events registered in the first quarter of a year, the event is shown as "About" that year. The event may have happened in the prior year or the year stated. There are many examples of December births registered in the first quarter of the following year, but without other documentation, the birth is listed as the year in which it was registered.

Definitions of Unusual Words and Occupations

carman/carrier/carter/cartman - driver of a horse-drawn covered cart for transporting goods. Carmen were often employed by railway companies for local deliveries and collections of goods and parcels. A carter typically drove a light two-wheeled carriage.

charwoman - a woman hired by the day to do odd jobs, usually cleaning, in a house. The word "chare" or "char" was used to describe an odd job.

FHL - Family History Library is a genealogical research facility in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, operated by FamilySearch, the genealogical arm of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. FHLC is their catalog of resources which includes books, film, maps, periodicals, and online resources.

IGI - International Genealogical Index is an older index of historical records sourced mostly from parish registers and user contributions.

informant - person who provided information of a birth, christening, or death; often a parent or spouse

lighterman - highly skilled operator of a lighter (a type of unpowered flat-bottomed barge) who used oars and his intimate knowledge of the River Thames' currents and tides to navigate

messuage - dwelling house with adjacent buildings and the lands appropriated to the use of the household

notions - small useful items including sundries

pilot - mariner who maneuvers ships through dangerous or congested waters, such as harbors or river mouths, and completes the berthing / unberthing operation of ships. Pilots are expert shiphandlers who possess detailed knowledge of local waterways. Pilots in this book are often referred to as Trinity House pilots

Trinity House - organization originally set up in the 16th century to control pilotage on the River Thames. It is the official General Lighthouse Authority for England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Gibraltar. All of Britain's lighthouses are owned by this organization. It is also an official deep sea pilotage authority, providing expert navigators for ships trading in Northern European waters. In addition, it is a maritime charity, dispersing funds for the welfare of retired seamen, training young cadets, and promoting safety at sea.

Twp. - township, a political subdivision of a county.

victualler - person licensed to sell alcoholic liquor or a pub manager

waterman - highly skilled operator of a small boat called a wherry or skiff who would ferry passengers along and across city centre rivers and estuaries in the United Kingdom and its colonies

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The Family of John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester

John Henry Henderson was born on 12 Nov 1847 in Milton-next-Gravesend, Kent, England. He died on 12 May 1917 in Gravesend, Kent, England. He was buried in 1917 in Gravesend, Kent, England.

John Henry Henderson's birth certificate shows his birth on 12 Nov 1847 at 12 Milton Place, Milton. His parents are John Henderson, pilot and informant, and Charlotte Bruce.

The Henderson family Bible, as copied by Sara Bunnett, shows John Henry Henderson and family are Congregationalists.

The 1871 census of Milton-next-Gravesend shows John H. Henderson, 23, unmarried, born in Gravesend, living at 21 E. Terrace with his parents, John and Charlotte Henderson, and his brother Joseph C. Henderson.

The St. George's, Gravesend, parish registers show John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester had banns read on 20 Aug, 27 Aug and 3 Sep 1871.

The IGI shows John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester married on 14 Sep 1871 at St. Peter and St. Paul, Milton-by-Gravesend.

John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester's marriage certificate shows their marriage on 14 Sep 1871 in the parish church in Milton-next-Gravesend. John was 24, a waterman and bachelor who lived in Milton. His father is John Henderson, a pilot. Ann was 19 and a spinster who lived in St. George's, Gravesend. Her father is Frederick Silvester, a licensed victualler. Witnesses were William Bates and Jane Elizabeth Burles.

Leopold John Henderson's birth certificate shows he and his parents lived at 4 Berkley Road, Milton, when he was born in July 1877.

Rosa Kate Henderson's birth certificate shows she and her parents lived at 14 Prospect Grove, Milton, when she was born in June 1879.

The 1881 census of Milton shows John H. Henderson, head, 33, pilot for London River, lived at 14 Prospect Grove with his wife, Ann C., 29, and his children:

Vernon H., 8, scholar

Annie, 3

Rosa, 1.

All were born in Gravesend except for mother Ann C., who was born in Northfleet.

The 1882 *Kelly's Directory of Gravesend* shows John Henderson, pilot, at 14 Prospect Grove.

The *Trinity House London Pilots Register Vol. 2, 1865-1894* shows John Henry Henderson was granted license #1330 on 20 May 1882 to sail from London Bridge down the Thames to Gravesend and back again. He was to be pensioned on 10-3-05. He was 34 (? 5'5-3/4" and had dark brown hair. On 29 May 1885 he was certified for vessels exceeding 14 feet.

The birth certificates of Clara and Dorothy Agnes Henderson show they and their parents lived at 72 Wellington St., Milton, at their births in June 1882 and July 1884, respectively. Their father is a pilot.

An indenture of 27 Jan 1885 between Henry Edward Braine of 225 Burdett Rd., Limehouse, Middlesex, dock master, and John Henry Henderson of 72 Wellington St., Gravesend, shows John paid Mr. Braine £500 for 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend. It was occupied by Henry Francis de Pothonier.



John Henry Henderson

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number.....1128.A.....

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <u>Gravesend and Milton.</u>										
1847. BIRTH in the Sub-district of <u>Gravesend and Milton</u> in the County of <u>Kent.</u>										
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
158	Twelfth November 1847	John Henry	Boy	John Henderson	Charlotte Henderson	Pilot	John Henderson Father 12 Milton Place Milton	December 1847	Edw. Blundell Registrar	—

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.
Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 25th day of September 1979

*See note overleaf

EXA 498749

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

Form A502M S37362 Dd 0534169 120M 5/79 Hw



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number 6027 H

Registration District Gravesend								
1871. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Milton next Gravesend in the County of Kent								
No.	When married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or profession	Residence at the time of marriage	Father's name and surname	Rank or profession of father
401	September 14 th 1871	John Henry Henderson	24	Bachelor	Waterman	Milton	John Henderson	Pilot
		Ann Craggs Silvester	19	Spinster		St George's Gravesend	Frederick Silvester	Licensed Victualler

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church after Banns by me, John Henry Henderson in the presence of us, William Bates and Jane Elizabeth Byles

This marriage was solemnized between us, Ann Craggs Silvester and James Bowyer off's Minister

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Marriages in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 3rd day of August 1978.

MB 195691

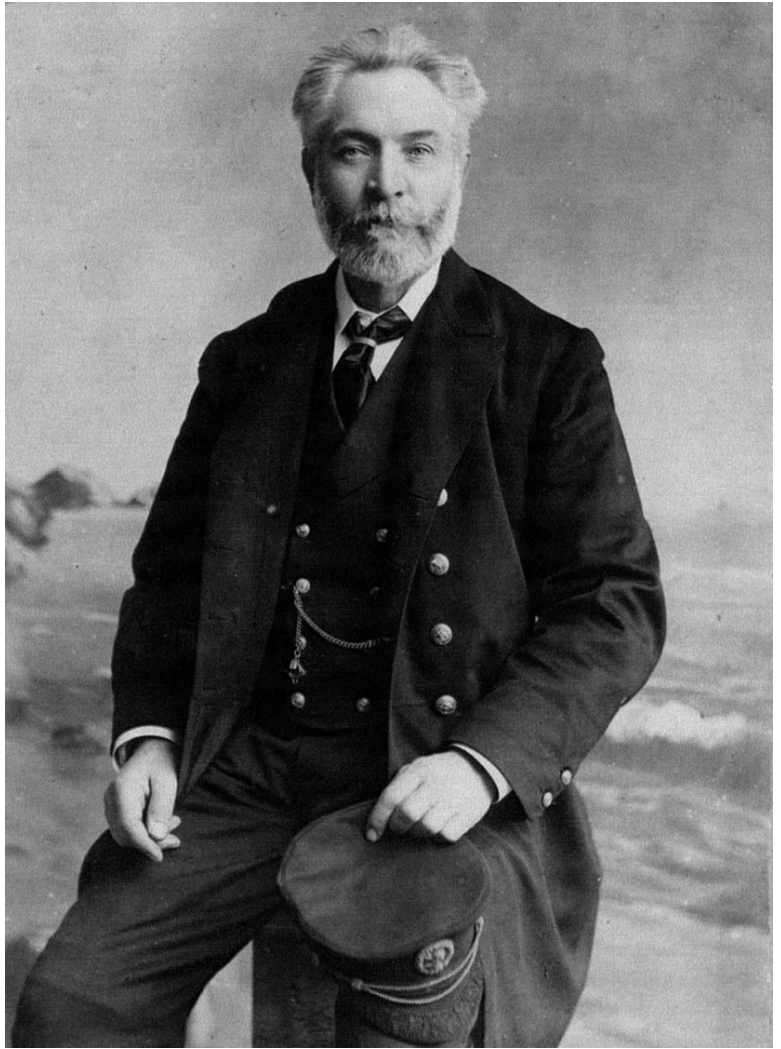
This certificate is issued in pursuance of section 65 of the Marriage Act 1949. Sub-section (3) of that section provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the marriage to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.





John Henry and Ann Craggs Henderson lived at 14 Prospect Grove, Milton, when their children Vernon, Annie, and Rosa were born in 1872, 1874, and 1879. They also lived here in 1880 - 1882. Note that Leopold was born in 1877 at 4 Berkley Rd., Milton. Photo taken in 1979.



**John Henry Henderson (1847-1917)
in his Trinity House Pilot uniform.**



14 Prospect Grove, Milton, the red brick house shown above in 1979.



**The same house in 2014.
Photo by Steve Archer.**



72 Wellington Street, Milton, in 2014 on the left (photo by Steve Archer) and in 1979 on the right. John Henry and Ann Craggs Henderson lived here in 1882-1885 and daughters Clara and Dorothy were born here. In the photo on the right is Margaret Owen who was living at 15 Parrock Rd, John and Ann's final home.

At right, Gravesend Methodist Church which John Henry Henderson attended. It was built in 1906 to replace an older one and was still there in 2021. Photo by Steve Archer in 2014.

Below, John Henry Henderson.





**A perfect home for a
Trinity House Pilot
3 Bronte Villas
15 Parrock Road
Gravesend**

John Henry Henderson had an expansive view of the activity on the Thames River and could race to the pier when a ship approached.

The family owned the home from 1885 - 1972.

Photo by Trevor Moore in 2013



View of the Thames looking to the left (north)



View of the Thames toward the northeast



View of the river looking across Parrock Road toward the southeast



View of the river looking straight out (east) from the house



**An old map and
an aerial view of
Bronte Villas in
Parrock Road**

**Arrows show
#3 Bronte Villas**





View toward the river from 3 Bronte Villas in 1910



**3 Bronte Villas in 1912 and probably
John Henry Henderson at the front door.**



A postcard from Gravesend Library showing Arnold's Footpath, looking west up toward 3 Bronte Villas.

Postcards from Gravesend Library

Parrock Road



View toward the river
from Bronte Villas





Left, a postcard showed this photo of the Henderson home.



Above, this table from the Henderson family was photographed at the Findon home of Jim & Pam Garrett (John Henry Henderson's granddaughter) in Oct 1984.

Below, the parlor at 3 Bronte Villas, 15 Parrock Road.





Kathleen Barry gave me the piece above, which she said came from 3 Bronte Villas. It may be part of a pillar described in Silvia Henderson's 30 Nov 1975 letter to Ruth & Charles Duncan. Silvia remembered cleaning two tall pillars in the old family home. They were about seven feet tall and in three parts. The lower parts were of hard marble, and the urn-like tops were of alabaster with carved flowers and leaves all around. Perhaps this piece was part of the pillar to the right of the piano shown on the previous page.

At right is a chest from 3 Bronte Villas, owned by Jim & Pam Garrett in Oct 1984.





This Henderson furniture was still in use at 3 Bronte Villas in 2021

Above left, armoire in children's bedroom. Photographed in Jun 1988.

Above right, brass bed photographed in 2013.

At left, mirror in a small bedroom, later the sewing room.

Below, dining room table.





“Ship in War”

Oil painting left to John Henry Henderson in his sister Mary Jane Henderson’s will, “To my dear Brother John Henry Henderson I leave the oil painting of the “Ship in War” as a small token of my gratitude for his loving care and his great kindness to me.”

Gustave de Breanski painting originally in the John Henry Henderson estate and later left to Kathleen Barry in Silvia Henderson’s will.



The 13 Jul 1944 letter from Charles Duncan (formerly Vernon Henry Henderson) to his sister Clara thanks her for the information regarding the age of No. 3 Bronte Villas and the fact that the six houses comprising the group were among the first of the brick, cement-faced buildings in the town.

Clare Henderson's 13 Mar 1950 letter to Ruth Duncan (Vernon's daughter-in-law) said her father bought 3 Bronte Villas when she was 3 and now she is 67. It is cement-faced and is perhaps one of the earliest in the town to be so treated. A local man, Isaac Johnson, was a cement pioneer and made a good deal of money producing new kinds. He lived to be well over 90 and was much esteemed for his high character. She has a piece of smooth and shiny stone or granite with a sharp edge that was found in their garden and may have been an ancient axe-head.

A 31 Jan 1887 letter from W. Tuffee, builder, to Mr. Henderson of 3 Bronte Villas discusses plans to build a fowl house in the back garden. It included diagrams and descriptions of how it was to be built and painted for a cost of £11 and 15 shillings. Mr. Tuffee's stationery shows this address, "W. Tuffee, Builder, Works. The Grove. 36 Parrock Street, Gravesend."

In our Sep 2017 vacation in Italy, Marion Fenn said her grandmother Rosa told her that John Henry Henderson was very sad to see his son Vernon leave the country. Marion said that Rosa said John Henry was very progressive and liked having the latest inventions and things. He was a real family man.

The 1892-1893 Gravesend Reg. of Electors shows John Henry Henderson is of or owns 3 Bronte Villas in the Upper Milton-next-Gravesend Polling Dist.

The 1899-1900 and 1918 issues of *Kelly's Directory of Gravesend, Milton, Northfleet & Dist.* show John H. Henderson's address is 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road. He is listed as a pilot in the 1918 directory.

Hall's Gravesend Milton & Northfleet Directory shows John H. Henderson lived at or owned these properties:

1872-1874, 1880, and 1881	14 Prospect Grove
1889	2 & 3 Bronte Villas
1885-1899, 1907, 1915, 1920, & 1922	15 Parrock Road, 3 Bronte Villas, John H. and/or Miss Henderson
1923-1939	15 Parrock Road, 3 Bronte Villas, Miss Henderson (in 1929-1930, 1933-1939 shown as Miss C. Henderson and H. J. C. Phipps). [Herbert J. R. & Edith Phipps lived in the lower flat, but in the 1939 Register, they were in Portland Ave. Widow Phipps was of 3 Bronte Villas at her death in 1972.]

These directories show John's name variously as G. H. Henderson, J. H. Henderson, J. Henry, and John Henderson. Also, his occupation as pilot was listed periodically. The Directory also lists 9 Shrubbery Road as owned or occupied by John Henry Henderson in 1922-1925, 1929-1930, and 1932-1935.

The deed papers owned by Terry Owen of 15 Parrock Rd., Gravesend, show he and his wife bought the house in 1972 from Alexandra Silvester Henderson of that address and Marjorie Eunice Bridgwater of 11 Oakwood Close, Hastings. John H. Henderson bought it from Henry Edward Braine on 27 Jan 1885. Before that it was owned by Robert Payne who sold it on 9 Jun 1883 to H. E. Braine. Robert Payne, a farmer, was from Chattisham, Suffolk.

Tony Larkin of the Gravesend Historical Society wrote the following in Sep 2016 which shows the occupancy of 3 Bronte Villas, 15 Parrock Road, Gravesend, as follows:

1846-1848?	Built
1849	Mrs. C. Chapman
1850	J. Crosse, Esquire (also owned No. 2 from 1849-1863)
1860	Miss Crosse
1860-1864	Miss Wilson Seminar
1864	Became Parrock Road
1865	Empty
1866-1869	Miss E. Croft (<i>Hall's Gravesend, Milton & Northfleet Directory</i> confirms this)

1870	Empty
1871-1880	T. F. Wilding
1881-1882	Empty
1885-1973	John Henry Henderson and family (his widow and children after his death in 1917)
1933-1972	Edith Phipps also lived there.
1974	Sold to Terry and Margaret Owen.

The Wed 14 Dec 1887 entry in John Henry Henderson's diary states, "After breakfast went out to the pier & other places. Ma was cleaning out her drawing room. After dinner I helped Ma. Laid down drugget in parlour for her. [A drugget is coarse fabric used for a floor covering.] I went out again in the evening. Was home rather early. This morning I went to Tolhursts and received the deeds of my house & obtained the release of the mortgage after handing Mr. Tolhurst a cheque for £150-13-3-. [According to their website in 2021, Martin Tolhurst Solicitors, one of Kent's leading law firms, was established over 130 years ago, which would have been in the 1880s.] I felt very glad at being able to get the deeds so soon and the first person I met was Mr. John Brain, the brother of the party I bought the house of. I then came home to dinner and afterwards did as above stated."

An 8 Sep 1981 letter from Silvia Henderson says the above house was built in 1831 for the Marquis of Marsham. [Note the 1846-1848 construction date above.] Lord Alfred Murray lived in the house next-door after Silvia moved away, but died some while back. In her younger days all those houses were occupied by pilots like her father and their big families. It was very convenient for them to see the ships coming up the river.

In the margin of an article about the "Sun" & the "Eagle" in an undated (ca 1971) and unnamed newspaper given me by Silvia Henderson in 1982 was written in ink (probably by her), "Bronte bought 1885".

The 1891 census of Milton and the Eccles. Parish of Christ Church shows John Henry Henderson, head, married 43, pilot seas, living at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road, with his wife, Annie C., 39, and his children: Vernon H., 18, grocer's assistant
Annie, 16, scholar
Leopold J., 13, scholar
Rosa K., 11, scholar
Clara, 8, scholar
Dorothy A., 6
Frank, 4
Winifred, 1.

Everyone in the family was born in Milton-next-Gravesend, except mother Annie, who was born in Northfleet. Also in the home was a domestic servant, Fanny E. E. Exton, single, 19, born in Faversham. [Note John's diary entry of Mon 6 Apr 1891 says, "Saw the Census returns filled up properly."]

Alfred Bunnett's obituary in the 26 Jan 1901 issue of the *Gravesend & Dartford Reporter* shows John Henderson was one of the chief mourners at Alfred Bunnett's funeral. John was a brother-in-law, a pilot, and of Bronte Villas, Gravesend.

Clare Henderson's 18 Dec 1952 letter to Ruth Duncan said they have had the coldest November for 27 years and a heavy fog hung over them for four days and nights. When she was small, she remembered her father was on a ship off Gravesend in thick fog for three days and nights. He could not leave it. That was a record.

The 1901 census of Milton and the Eccles. Parish of Christ Church shows John H. Henderson, head, 53, pilot of the Port of London (seas), living at 3 Bronte Villas with his wife Anne C., 49, born in Northfleet, and his children:

Rosa K., 21
Dorothy A., 16
Frank, 14
Winnifred [Winifred], 11

Harold R., 9

Alexandra S., 7

Marjorie E., 1.

John and the children were born in Gravesend.

A List of Trinity House, London pilots given me in Sep 1979 by Jack Sanderson, a Trinity House pilot and friend of Terry Owen of 3 Bronte Villas, shows John Henry Henderson was born in 1848, had dark brown hair, was 5'6" tall, probably worked in Gravesend, and was pensioned in 1905.

John H. Henderson and Mary Silvester Holland's marriage certificate shows they married on 11 June 1907 at the Wesleyan Chapel, Grove Place, in the Parish of St. Helier, Island of Jersey, by license. He was a widower and had no occupation. He was age 59, born in Gravesend, and his father is John Henderson, a pilot. She was a widow, age 57, born in Northfleet, and her father is Frederick Silvester, a licensed victualler. Their residence at the time of marriage was St. Helier. Witnesses were Arthur Hanson and Charles W. V. Stone.

Kathleen Barry (John Henry Henderson's granddaughter) told me in June 1982 that he and Mary Holland married in Jersey because at the time the law did not permit a man to marry his deceased wife's sister.

Jill Keefe's 17 Mar 2018 email says her father [John Eric Symons, grandson of John Henry Henderson] told her John Henry Henderson's children were not keen on his marrying their Aunt Polly, and his daughter Rosa married to escape.

The 1911 census of Gravesend shows John Henry Henderson, head, 63, retired pilot, living with his wife Mary, 61, and his four unmarried children at 3 Bronte Villas:

Dorothy A., 26, typist for a motor car maker

Winifred, 21, typist for a motor car maker

Harold Ray, 19, electrical engineer apprentice at a generating station

Marjorie E., 11.

Mary had been in this marriage 3 yrs. and had had no children in this marriage. Mary was born in Northfleet, but all others were born in Gravesend. The house had 8 rooms.

John Henry Henderson's 27 Dec 1914 letter from his home at 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend, to his nephew Joe Bunnett, c/o University Club, Portland, Oregon, says, "I am not hard up or closehailed. You know just living comfortably. Tugs & Houses returning sufficient income to keep us going.....Two of our Tugs are at Boulogne and one the last new one at Southampton all commandeered by the government. How is Bob & Harry are they doing well give my kind regards to them in which Aunt Polly joins to yourself also. I have plenty of rheumatics at times but feeling fairly well just now."

John Henry Henderson's death certificate shows his death on 12 May 1917 at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road [Gravesend]. He was a pensioned pilot and 69 years old. The informant and present at his death was his son, H. R. Henderson, of 49 Granby Road, Well Hall S.E.9. John died of cancer of the stomach.

The 19 May 1917 issue of the *Gravesend & Dartford Reporter* shows John died on 12 May 1917 at 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend. He was 69 and a retired Trinity House pilot. "Colonial papers please copy."

The John H. and Anne [Ann] Craggs Henderson family tombstone in the Gravesend Cemetery shows John H. Henderson's death on 12 May 1917 at age 69. The Gravesend Cem. Rec. shows he was buried in 1917 in grave #4264 and was burial #26854.

Inscriptions from the four sides of the tombstone show, "The Family Grave of John H. Henderson In Loving Memory of Anne Craggs Wife of John H. Henderson Who Passed Peacefully Away May 10th 1906. Aged 54 Years. Also the Above John H. Henderson Who Died May 12th 1917, Aged 69 Years. Hope to meet my pilot face to face when I have crost the bar. Also Winifred Daughter of the Above Died June 24th 1947 Cremated At Manor Park.

[next side] In Loving Memory of Harold Raymond Henderson, Died June 9th 1965. Cremated at Cheltenham.

[next side] In Loving Memory of Sylvia [Silvia] Died 2nd October 1985 Cremated at Hastings.

[next side] In Loving Memory of Clara Henderson, Died Feb 8th 1955."

3 Bronte Villas
Gravesend
27/12/14

Dear Joe

I suppose you don't mind me addressing you so but you are still the same old Joe to me. This is to tell you how glad I was to receive your Photo I looked at the dear old face for ever so long why you are growing a fine looking chap Joe, are you spliced yet or engaged or what you might write a little to an old chap that always seemed to feel an interest in you boys my nephews



John Henry Henderson's letter to Joe Bunnett

c/o University Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.

dated 27 Dec 1914. Written from

3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend.

Notation on envelope "Panama size 6 7/8"

Dear Joe,

I suppose you don't mind me addressing you so but you are still the same old Joe to me. This is to tell you how glad I was to receive your Photo. I looked at the dear old face for ever so long. Why you are growing a fine looking chap. Joe, are you spliced yet or engaged or what. You might write a little to an old chap that always seemed to feel an interest in you boys my nephews.

Well, Joe, here is another Christmas passed it has been rather a quiet one, sad for some people who have lost relatives & friends in the War and what a war. What do you think of it all. I suppose you don't blame the old country for upholding its honour and regarding her (illegible word) and obligations of course we all knew the German meant having a go at us when they thought the opportunity favourable & they believed what with Irish question and all the trouble they had taken to stir up shifts in South Africa also in India that the time had come when we could not go to rescue France or Belgium but they were mistaken & if only we had adopted Lord Roberts' plan and had a larger army things would have been different but we shall beat them Joe. There is vitality in the old country yet and her Empire. Also see how her sons have rallied round her. We have a million men ready now for the spring to land on the continent so I expect we shall give the final blow to Germany and her militarism. They want to domineer over every nation under the sun and to take the Trident away from Britannia. Well we shall see.

On Christmas Day one of their aeroplanes paid us a visit up the Thames it was going up nicely for London we did not know to what country it belonged at first until people began to hear firing & shells exploding near it. I think some of the military authorities made it out to be a German so some of our planes started after it and drove it back. It passed right over us high up making toward Sheerness then the guns began to bear on it then one of our planes chased it again and (illegible word) it out to sea when a fog came on and it was lost in the fog. It dropped a bomb at Cliffe just below us but I see our navy gave them

a raid on Xmas day with seven waterplanes & dropped bombs on their fleet & on (illegible word) Gas works and our destroyer had to pick up 3 of our planes and bring them into safety and three others got back all right but one of our best men & plane is missing so that was today's sport.

You will have read of how some of their cruisers made a raid on the Yorkshire coast and bombarded undefended towns Scarborough, Whitby & Hartlepool causing about 120 deaths and 400 wounded. The worst of it was their ships got back all right in the haze & mist. This will no doubt be a long expensive war. It is costing us one million pound per day. Two millions France 2 1/4 millions Germany and 2 millions Russia then there is Turkey, Serbia & Montenegro & Portugal so it is costing the different nations 7 million pounds per day.

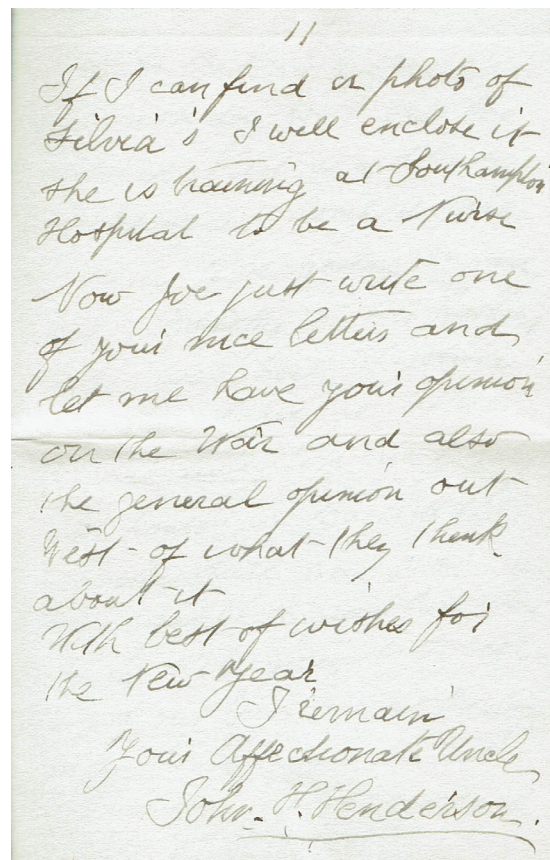
Well, how are you shaping Joe. That looks a nice panama hat you were taken in. I should like one very much just like it if you think of ever sending me a present for Auld Lang Syne. I am not hard up or closehauled. You know just living comfortably. Tugs & Houses returning sufficient income to keep us going. Aunt Polly's boys are all doing well. They are all pilots now. My Ver the last I heard from him was at Fort Miley San Francisco California but I have not heard from him lately. He goes by the name of Chas. Duncan the name he adopted when he first joined their army over 20 years ago. Leo is still at his farm in Australia & Frank is carpenting in Sydney is married & has 2 children. Ray is in Woolwich Arsenal assistant electrical draughtsman. Clara is nursing wounded soldiers in France. Winnie & Silvia are training in hospitals at Exeter & Southampton respectively. Rosa & Bert her husband were here yesterday with their two children. Bert is a solicitor teaching at Romford, Essex. He seems to be getting on fairly well. Dorothy & her husband Ralph were here Christmas Day. They have no little ones. They are living in one of my little houses on Bartlett Rd. My little Molly has grown a fine girl 15 years last May. She is still going to school. Two of our Tugs are at Boulogne and one the last new one at Southampton all commandeered by the government.

How is Bob & Harry are they doing well give my kind regards to them in which Aunt Polly joins to yourself also.

I have not seen your brother Ned for years. Last year we did run down to Westcliffe and saw Mother & Bessie & Jess. We have just had a Xmas card from Mother so suppose she is all right. I have plenty of rheumatics at times but feeling fairly well just now.

If I can find a photo of Silvia's I will enclose it. She is training at Southampton Hospital to be a nurse. Now Joe just write one of your nice letters and let me have your opinion on the war and also the general opinion out West of what they think about it. With best of wishes for the New Year.

I remain your Affectionate Uncle
John H. Henderson



11
If I can find a photo of
Silvia's I will enclose it
she is training at Southampton
Hospital to be a nurse
Now Joe just write one
of your nice letters and
let me have your opinion
on the war and also
the general opinion out
West - of what they think
about it
With best of wishes for
the New Year
I remain
Your Affectionate Uncle
John H. Henderson.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number 8872 H

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <u>Spursend</u>									
1917. DEATH in the Sub-district of <u>Spursend</u> in the <u>County of Kent.</u>									
Columns :-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
498	<u>Twelfth</u> <u>May 1917.</u> <u>3, Bronte Villas,</u> <u>Parrock Road.</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>John</u> <u>Henry</u> <u>Henderson.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>69</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>a Pilot</u> <u>(pensioned)</u>	<u>Cancer of Stomach</u> <u>certified by</u> <u>L. E. Robbs. M.B.</u>	<u>H. R. Henderson.</u> <u>Son.</u> <u>Present at death.</u> <u>49,</u> <u>Granby Road,</u> <u>Well Hall.</u> <u>S.E.9.</u>	<u>Sixteenth.</u> <u>May.</u> <u>1917.</u>	<u>K. E. M.</u> <u>Hammond.</u> <u>Registrar.</u>

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 7th day of May 1920.

DA 719972

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.
Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:— Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution



The E&W Natl. Probate Cal. shows John Henry Henderson died on 12 May 1917 and probate was in London on 19 July 1917 to Winifred and Alexandra Silvester Henderson, spinster[s]. John was of 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road, Gravesend. His effects were £6,331 5s. 1d. His will was written on 12 Mar 1915 and a codicil was added on 21 Jan 1917 which changes provision to his daughter Annie Dinet and adds Clara as an Executrix. Witnesses to the will were two solicitors.

Witnesses to the codicil were Arthur Holland, "Doralia" Essex Road, and Victor Holland, 1 Portland Road. Both lived in Gravesend and were Trinity House Pilots. The will named John's children: Winifred Henderson, Alexandra Silvester Henderson, Harold Raymond Henderson, Dorothy Agnes Schultz, Annie Dinet, Frank Henderson, and Clara Henderson.

The will of John Henry Henderson shows his death on 12 May 1917 at 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend, his home. It was proved at the Principal Probate Registry and the estate was granted to Winifred Henderson of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter, Devon, spinster; and Alexandra Silvester Henderson of the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital, Southampton, Hants, spinster; daughters of the deceased and two of the executors named in the said will, power reserved to Clara Henderson, the executrix named in the codicil. The document was dated 19 Jul 1917. The gross value of his estate was £6,331=5=11. The net value of his personal estate was £3,228=2=7.

A 22 Feb 1989 letter to Charles Duncan, Jr., from Symons & Gay, solicitors, in regards John Henry Henderson's estate states John Henry wrote a will on 12 Mar 1915 and a codicil on 21 Jan 1917. He owned property at 15 Bartlett Rd., Gravesend. Trustees in 1985 were Lawrence Cecil Symons and Kathleen Maud Barry.

The Trust Accounts in the Estate of John Henry Henderson prepared by Messrs. Symons & Gay, 91a South Street, Romford, Essex, show that on 19 Jul 1917 probate of the will and codicil was granted to Winifred Henderson and Alexandra Silvester Henderson, the Executrices named therein, power being reserved to Clara Henderson. John devised his freehold property at 15 Bartlett Rd., Gravesend, to his son Harold Raymond Henderson, together with his shares in William Kory and Sons, Lt. His freehold property at 13 Bartlett Rd., Gravesend, to his daughter Dorothy Agnes Schultz, who and whose husband's name was later changed to Elvidge. John's wife Mary is to reside rent free in his freehold property at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road, Gravesend. After her death or re-marriage, John's spinster daughter(s) is to receive 3 pounds per week during her/their lifetimes. After the death or marriage of all the spinster daughters, the residue of the estate is to be split equally between son Frank Henderson and all of John's daughters.

Daughter Winifred Henderson married Harold Winter Warboys [Worboys] and died on 24 Jun 1947. Daughter Clara Henderson died on 8 Feb 1955. John's last spinster daughter Alexander [Alexandra] Silvester Henderson died on 2 Oct 1985. Daughter Annie Thorl died intestate on 27 May 1974 in France, having married a French citizen. Her husband predeceased her as did her only child without leaving issue. Daughter Rosa Kate Symons predeceased Mrs. Thorl and her share is divided equally to her children: Mrs. K. M. Barry, Mr. J. E. Symons and Mr. L. C. Symons. Son Frank Henderson, who predeceased Mrs. Thorl, will through his son Mr. V. T. Henderson will divide it equally between all the children of Frank Henderson or their issue as alive at 27 May 1974. Miss A. S. Henderson, who survived Mrs. Thorl, will make this distribution: 3/5 to Mrs. M. E. Bridgewater [Bridgwater] and 2/5 to Mrs. K. M. Barry. Mr. L. J. Henderson, who predeceased Mrs. Thorl, through his daughter Mrs. M. Thompson [Thomson] who will divide it equally between herself and all the other children of L. J. Henderson or their issue as alive at 27 May 1974. Mr. V. H. Duncan (formerly Henderson) who predeceased Mrs. Thorl, through his son Charles Duncan who will divide it equally between all the children of V. H. Duncan or their issue as alive at 27 May 1974.

Rosa Kate Symons died on 4 Sep 1960 and her share is divided 2/3 to Mrs. K. M. Barry and 1/3 to Mr. J. Symons. Clara Henderson died on 8 Feb 1955 without issue. Her will of 7 Nov 1948 shows her share is to be held for her sister Alexander [Alexandra] which in turn is to be divided as to 2/5 to Mrs. K. M. Barry and 3/5 to Mrs. M. E. Bridgewater. Dorothy Agnes Elvidge died on 1 Aug 1970, intestate and without issue. Her estate passed to her husband Ralph William Elvidge, who died on 16 Oct 1974. Under his will of 3 Apr 1973, Ralph appointed Henrietta Anne Elvidge and Gladys Gatherum to be the two Executrices and Kate Elvidge.

Henrietta Anne Elvidge died on 15 Jan 1985, and the other Executrix has been traced and payment of this share will be made to her. On 28 Mar 1988, the Executrix obtained a Grant de bonis non to the Estate of Dorothy Agnes Elvidge and all payments will be made to her as Personal Representative.

Frank Henderson died on 22 Apr 1963 and his share is to be paid to Vernon Taylor Henderson. Winifred Worboys died on 24 Jun 1947 without issue. By her will of 20 Dec 1944 she left her estate to her brother Harold Raymond Henderson. He died on 9 Jun 1965. By his will of 24 Aug 1960, he left his estate to his wife Isobel Henderson. Her whereabouts could not be obtained, so her share is to be distributed equally between Mrs. M. E. Bridgewater and the estates of the other six children: Mrs. A. Thoral, Mrs. C. Henderson, Mrs. R. K. Symons, Mrs. D. Elvidge, Miss A. S. Henderson and Mr. F. Henderson. Alexander Silvester Henderson died on 2 Oct 1985 and her will of 12 Nov 1981 directs her share to be distributed as to 3/5 to Mrs. M. E. Bridgewater and 2/5 to Mrs. K. M. Barry.

Silvia Henderson's 17 Feb 1982 letter says her father left her and Molly with a nice estate and that she has two very good pensions as well as interest from her father's estate. She wrote that "he was very keen to make sure his girls should not be left pennyless---nor the boys, but he hoped they would do well, and helped them to a good education and start in a business or trade. He worked hard and expected each of us to pull our share in the world."

Silvia Henderson's 6 Feb 1957 letter to Ruth Duncan says Silvia's father had a wall clock in the hall which is very similar to the one in the Beeson Museum in Dodge City, Kansas, [now the Beeseon Gallery in the Boot Hill Museum] which Ruth's great-grandfather Scott had, per Ruth's previous letter. Silvia said her father took great care of it. It has a weight that gradually works down and when it reaches near the bottom requires winding up again. It still keeps good time.

Silvia's Christmas 8 Nov 1958 letter to Ruth Duncan says, "The cover of this magazine shows the "Leather Bottle Inn" at Cobham in Kent. It's about 5 miles from here. Charles' father, along with my eldest brothers & sisters often used to go & pic-nic there in the woods belong to Lord Darnley (this before I was born). They would gather fallen chestnuts (the eating variety) in the woods, and gather black berries. In early summer the rhododendrons banked high around the lakes would reflect their blooms in the still water, while the soft cooing of the wood pigeons filled the quiet, then. No busy, noisy motor cars hurried by then,---silent bicycles or an occasional pony & trap,---or farm cart. The village is still beautiful though, & the old sign of Dickens' Mr. Pickwick making a speech, whilst standing on his chair, still swings outside the Inn. Although it had a fresh coat of paint last year, when my cousin from Australia & I visited the place. The old sign was away for re-painting. We were quite disappointed not to see it. But it was soon replaced again. The old church opposite the Inn is noted for its ancient brasses portraying the De Cobham & Brook families, going back to the 11th-15th centuries. The brasses are set in the floor and very carefully preserved.

Silvia's 19 Nov 1964 letter to Ruth Duncan says on special occasions, like Queen Victoria's Jubilee, Silvia's father would decorate the balcony with "fairy lights" all along. They were little candles in blue, red, and white containers as there was no electricity in those days.

A Statutory Declaration of Miss Alexandra Silvester Henderson, spinster, on 12 Nov 1965 by Symons & Gay, Romford, Essex, shows she and Marjorie Eunice Bridgewater were co-trustees of the following assets:

£672	Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., nominal ordinary stock
200	Daily Mirror Newspapers Ltd., 6% cumulative preference shares of 1£ each
1820	The British Motor Corp., Ltd., ordinary shares of 5/- each
600	The Gravesend & Dartford Reporter, Ltd., fully paid shares of £1 each
340	International Paints (Holdings), Ltd., fully paid ordinary shares of 4/- each
£1,682 8s. 10d.	3 1/2% war stock
£505 5s. 0d.	British Transport 3% Guaranteed Stock 1978-1888
£350 0s. 0d.	Government of the Commonwealth of Australia 3% Loan 1964-1966
£460 0s. 0d.	3% Defence Bonds

Two pieces or parcels of land on the north side of Pelham Rd., Gravesend, with two dwellinghouses erected

there at 26 and 28 Pelham Rd., South. The property was comprised in a conveyance of 4 Jul 1898 between William Fletcher of the first part, Thomas William Christmas Box of the second part and John Henry Henderson of the third part.

The gardens in the front and rear and dwellinghouse and outbuildings at 3 Bronte Villas, 15 Parrock Rd., Gravesend, comprised in a conveyance of 27 Jan 1885 between Henry Edward Braine of the first part and John Henry Henderson of the other part.

Other indentures show these previous owners of 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend:

In 1883 Robert Payne of Chattisham, Suffolk, farmer, sold the house for £460 to George Payne of Milton-next-Gravesend, gentleman, and William McKown, of Milton-next-Gravesend, late Adjutant of the 1st Kent Artillery Volunteer Corps, and William Joseph Homewood, of Milton-next-Gravesend, auctioneer and estate agent, sold to Henry Edward Braine of 225 Burdett Rd., Limehouse, Middlesex, gentleman, and George Hubert Edmonds, of Milton-next-Gravesend, esquire. The house was acquired from the will of Harriet Saddington, widow, of 1 Bronte Villas, Gravesend, in her will of 13 Dec 1882. Her brother Robert Payne was allowed to purchase the house and property at Chattisham after her death. It was occupied by Henry Francis de Pothonier.

In June 1982 Kathleen Barry told me John was very generous with his family and gave money to his sons in Australia. He was among the first to have a record player, radio, etc. He had strong faith and attended the Methodist Church and sometimes the Zion Church.

Silvia Henderson's 24 Nov 1984 letter says when she was a child, her family had a country home eight miles from Gravesend where they spent weekends in the winter. They would travel there in a "dog trap" with two wheels. She got very cold riding in it and her hands would get "frozen" and get "warm ache" when warming up.

On 30 Oct 1993 Kathleen Barry phoned me and said John Henry's summer cottage "Wilderness" was outside Gravesend in the country on the way to Meopham or near Meopham. It wasn't big, but like a cottage and used by his daughters, Rosa, Wyn, Dot and Silvia in the summer and on holidays. He owned it for several years but seldom used it. Rosa told Kathleen there was a dog nearby that barked at night. John owned 7-8 little terraced houses in Gravesend which he rented. Some were on Pelham Road. He was impulsive but careful financially.

In my 19 Oct 1994 visit with Mrs. Florence Mary Mester and Mr. R. Finney at his home at 40 Earl's Rd., Northfleet, Florence said the Hendersons owned Nos. 32, 34, and 36 Pelham Road South and also a house and garage at York Rd. near Springhead Rd. in Northfleet. John H. Henderson often bought houses from Mr. Christmas Box. George Box built the houses. Florence lived at 26 Pelham Rd. South, Gravesend, which she rented in 1938. She said this house was owned by Silvia and Clare Henderson and then by Molly Bridgwater. Clare managed the house, then Silvia managed it after nursing at Wigan, and then Molly managed it. When Silvia died, Molly sold the house. The house at 15 Parrock Rd., Gravesend, had a stained glass window with a bird in it near the front door.

An undated letter [1983] from Silvia Henderson to Mrs. Mester says her father bought those Pelham Rd. South houses in 1899. That's 84 years ago. Her father often used to go to Pelham Rd. South to see how things were doing. "I would only be six years old but do remember him talking about Mr. Box the builder. I read some months ago in the deeds of these houses that the land belonged to the Church of England and Mr. Box bought it from their Authorities The High Commissioners, I think they were called, if I remember rightly what I read. My father was a good man and straight. Those houses have stood well for over 84 years for us and probably more, so I don't think much of the subsidence tales now which someone started a while back when it suited them. The surveyors and valuers would not have let me put a new roof on if they thought that. I don't think you really believe it, - do you? Houses are apt to get cracks. This house I live in has them, and sways, in strong gales, -- but we don't think it's subsiding. Why after 84 years? Queen Alexandra gave us this house [Queen Alexandra House in Folkestone] for her retired Queen Alexandra's Military Army Nursing Service nurses and it's run by the ..." [next page missing].

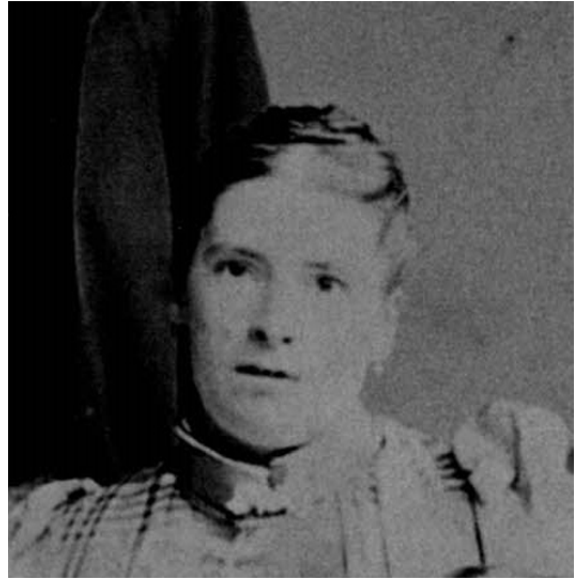
Silvia's 24 Nov 1984 letter to me says they lived at No. 3 Bronte Villas until the address was altered to 15 Parrock Rd.

John Henry Henderson married **Ann Craggs Silvester**, daughter of Frederick Silvester and Susan Upton, on 14 Sep 1871 in Milton-next-Gravesend, Kent, England. Ann was born on 31 Jan 1852 in Perry St., Northfleet, Kent, England. She was christened on 22 Feb 1852 in Northfleet, Kent. She died on 10 May 1906 in Gravesend, Kent, England. She was buried on 14 May 1906 in Gravesend, Kent, England. *For more information about Ann's family, see the Silvester section in another volume.*

Ann Craggs Silvester's birth certificate shows she was born on 29 Jan 1852 in Northfleet and her parents are Frederick Silvester, a gardener, and Susan Upton. [Note her birthday is shown as 31 Jan in her husband's diaries.]

The 3 Apr 1979 letter to me from Rev. D. Granfield of The Vicarage, the Hill, Northfleet, shows Ann Craggs Silvester was baptized 22 Feb 1852 in Northfleet. Her parents are Frederick and Susan Silvester, both of Northfleet. Frederick was a gardener.

The 1871 Gravesend & Milton census shows Anne Silvester, 19, single, barmaid, born in Northfleet, living at "The Sun", 40 New Road, with Solomon and Mary Ann Upton, their children, and Mary Ann's sister Jane E. Burles. [Solomon Upton is Ann's uncle.]



JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S 1876, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1893 and 1894 DIARIES show the following entries relevant to his wife "Annie" aka "Ma"

1876, age 24

Mon 31 Jan	"This being Annie's birthday, I bought her a cloud at Bryants."
Sat 5 Feb	"I also went to Bryants & paid for Annie's dress, £5-10s, a good round sum for a dress."
Tue 27 Jun	"Came home to dinner & helped Annie clean her front bedroom. Worked away till ten oclock."
Wed 28 Jun	"Annie was having the washing done to day so cleaned the furniture in the front bedroom for her."
Sat 16 Sep	"In doors nearly all day assisting Annie."
Thurs 19 Oct	"Yesterday Annie promised Susey she would go to London to day with her so off she went. Met Annie & Sue & walked them home, being let in for a new bonnet."
Mon 11 Dec	"Helping Annie to make the mincemeat for Christmas."

1886, age 34

Sun 31 Jan	"Wished Ma many happy returns of the day, it being her birthday."
Fri 19 Feb	"Paid Mr. Baker for some spectacles & Ma's brooch."
Sat 20 Feb	"Marked some pinafores in the evening."
Tue 6 Jul	"Ma principally engaged with mat making but not very well. We are feeling the heat very much just now."
Wed 7 Jul	"Ma called me at 1.30 AM to go & fetch Mrs. Drayson as she did not feel well. At 2 AM I went for Doctor Richmond. From there went to Mrs. Dick. Before I got back, Ma had presented me with a little boy [Frank] at 2.30 AM in the morning."
Thurs 8 Jul	"Ma going on favorably."
Fri 16 Jul	"This morning Dr. Richmond called and paid his farewell visit. I paid him his fee"

	for attending Ma."
Sun 18 Jul	"Ma came down stairs to day. First since her confinement."
Tue 19 Oct	"Brought some fresh herrings home and cooked them for dinner, it being Ma's washing day."
	1887, age 35
Fri 3 Jun	"Went to Boormans the jewellers and bought a gold chain for Ver for his birthday present tomorrow. I also bought one for Ma and myself, altogether amounting to £21."
Wed 20 Jul	"Went out with Ma in the evening. Called at Bryants. Chose a cloak for Ma and looked at some dresses."
Tue 6 Sep	"Was out in the morning. Saw the Memorial Stone for the New Clock Tower that is being erected in honor of Queen Victoria's 50 years reign and in the afternoon Ma, Clare, & I went and saw the Mayor W. Fletcher which his worship is Ma's own cousin. Saw him lay the foundation or memorial stone of the clock Tower but it was rather a dull proceeding." [Mayor Fletcher is Ann's first cousin.]
Wed 5 Oct	"Called at Startups and Bryants. Ma ordered a new dress which I chose for her, a cambrian tweed."
Tue 8 Nov	"Before breakfast put an extra line up for Ma to hang her clothes out to dry. Did some mangling for Ma in the evening."
	1888, age 36
Tue 17 Jan	"Brought some steak home & cooked it for dinner, Ma being busy washing. In the afternoon I minded the children, Dot being a little better but Frank was not at all well."
	1889, age 37
Tues 29 Jan	"Bought Ma an album for her birthday present. Helped Ma a little as it was her washing day."
Thurs 31 Jan	"I went to Cannon St. and left there by the 3.25 PM train, arriving home in time for tea, it being Ma's birthday. I made her a present of an album, Tiny a purse, Leo a hand bow, &c. I stayed in during the evening hoping to have a nice family evening at home with my wife & children but the rheumatics seized hold of my left knee and I was glad to get to bed, the pain being very severe."
Mon 18 Mar	"Purchased a corset for Ma & some wool."
Thurs 25 Apr	"Was just going out this morning when the new wardrobe that I had made Ma a present of came up."
Sat 3 Aug	"Arrived at Gravesend about 7.30 AM, having had a beautiful tide down. I came home & found Ma expecting to be confined so we sent the children out to Rosherville for the day & eventually I went for Nurse Coy & doctor and at 4.20 PM another little girl was born, this being our eighth child, all well & living. Ma had a very good time."
Sun 25 Aug	"Ma & I went to chapel Princes St., the first time she has been out since the birth of our little girl Winifred."
Sat 14 Sep	"Ma & I went to London. Walked up Regent St. and I bought Ma a new bonnet, this being the anniversary of our 18th wedding day."
Sun 15 Sep	"This evening Nurse Coy left us, she having been 6 weeks with us."
Mon 2 Dec	"Then went out with Ma, leaving Jane with baby. We called Annie Dentons. Then to Bryant & Rackstraws. I bought Ma a new dress & new cuffs to her jacket."
Sat 21 Dec	"I helped Ma bath[e] children after tea."
	1891, age 39
Thurs 8 Jan	"Ma & I & Rosa went out in the morning to go to the ditches, & going down Plum pudding lane, Ma & I fell down together, owing to the ice underneath the snow. Ma had a very nasty fall. We went to the ditches below the Lobster & met Tiny, Leo, Clara, & the Archers. We stayed with them a little. Then came to dinner."
Sat 31 Jan	"Got home at 9 PM, feeling again very thankful to God for his many mercies to me during another month. This is Ma's birthday so we spent the rest of evening together."
Fri 13 Mar	"I beat ma's staircarpets & put them down."
Mon 23 Mar	"Ma & I went to London by the 10 AM train. We then went to the Stores in Queen Victoria St. Bought Ma a Dressing gown and the Children a few toys."

Fri 17 Apr "Then laid Parlour carpet &c. for Ma."
 Mon 8 Jun "After Breakfast I went for the Doctor & Nurse Jefferies, telling them to attend Ma as soon as they could. I then went to London by the 11.13 train to the West India Docks and left there with the Norwegean bark "August Tellefsen" at 3 PM and arrived at Gravesend with her at 6 PM. Came home about 7 when they informed me Ma had presented me with a little boy born at 11 oclock this morning, both doing well." [Harold Raymond Henderson born this day.]
 Mon 6 Jul "In the evening Nurse Jeffries left us."

1893, age 41

Sun 18 Jun "Went to Lacey Terrace chapel with Ma in the morning. She put on her new silk dress for the first time."
 Tue 11 Jul "We went to the Parade and ordered some breakfast but Ma could not eat any. While I was having mine, she fell down, almost unconscious but she soon came round and got a bit better. We then went for a walk....." [Note their daughter Alexandra Silvester was born 4 months later, on 14 Nov.]
 Tue 5 Sep "This morning Ma & I went for a walk to Coopers. Ordered a new Washingstand & Toilet Table & a new carpet for her bedroom."
 Tue 14 Nov "I went for Nurse Chambers at 8 AM. Told her Ma night want her soon and at 11 went to Dr. Robbs. Told him he might be wanted for Ma. At four oclock, I went for the Doctor & at 4.10 PM Ma presented me with another little girl. This is our 10 child, all alive & well."
 Wed 15 Nov "I came down by 8 PM train with Neal the waterman. Got home 9.30. Found Ma & infant going on favourably."
 Mon 20 Nov "Went out in the evening, Ma going on favourably with no. 10."

1894, age 42

Wed 31 Jan "Got up to tea, Aunt Polley & Aunt Denton being here to tea and spent the evening with us & had an eel supper, it being Ma's birthday to day." [Note this is the fifth year John writes that his wife's birthday is 31 Jan. However, her birth certificate shows her birth is 29 Jan 1852.]
 Thurs 15 Feb "Ma & I & Clara & Ray went to London by the 11.13 AM train to the Civil Service Stores. Bought Ma an Opera cloak and sundry other things."
 Sun 27 May "Ma not well, breast bad."
 Thurs 31 May "Ma has a very bad breast, requiring the Doctors advise. She is at present poulticing it."

*****End of JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S DIARY entries for Ann Craggs Henderson*****

Anne [Ann] Craggs Henderson's death certificate shows she died at age 54 on 10 May 1906 at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road, Milton. She died of cerebral apoplexy coma 3-1/2 days. Her husband, John Henry Henderson, a retired pilot, was the informant and present at her death.

The 12 May 1906 issue of the *Gravesend & Dartford Reporter* has this death notice: "Henderson - On May 10th at 3, Bronte Villas, Gravesend, Anne Craggs, the dearly loved wife of John H. Henderson, aged 54 years. Colonial papers please copy."

The 19 May 1906 issue of the same newspaper included Jane Tulk's obituary which stated that one of her sisters (Mrs. Henderson) had died on Weds. Jane died on Sat., 12 May 1906. Ann's death had affected Jane. [She committed suicide two days after Ann's death.] They had another sister, too [5 sisters, all living]. Ann was 54 and was buried on 14 May 1906 at the Gravesend Cemetery. Services were by Rev. C. E. Marsh.

The E&W Natl. Probate Cal. shows Ann Craggs Henderson died on 10 May 1906. She was of 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road, Gravesend, and the wife of John Henry Henderson. Administration was in London 3 Sep 1918 [note 12 years after her death, but a year after her husband's death] to Winifred Henderson and Alexander [Alexandra] Silvester Henderson, spinsters. Her effects were £180.

The Gravesend Cemetery Records show Ann was buried in grave #4264 and was burial #22348.

The tombstone inscription in the Gravesend Cemetery shows Anne [Ann] Craggs Henderson, wife of John H. Henderson, died on 10 May 1906 at age 54.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number.....88711H.....

REGISTRATION DISTRICT										
BIRTH in the Sub-district of <u>Northfleet</u> in the County of <u>Kent</u>										
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
21	January 11 th 1852	John Craggs	Male	Mr. John Craggs	Miss Ann Silvester formerly Upton	Gardener	John Silvester of Northfleet	January 11 th 1852	George Silvester	George Silvester

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.
 Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 7th day of May 1980

*See note overleaf

BXA 566416

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

Form A502M S37362 Dd 0534169 1204 5/79 Hw



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number **33490**

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Gravesend									
1906. DEATH in the Sub-district of Gravesend in the County of Kent									
Columns:—									
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
362	10th May 1906 3 Bronte Villas Parade Road Milton U.D.	Ann Craggs Henderson	Female	54 years	Wife of John Henry Henderson a Mot (Groomed)	Cerebral Apoplexy Coma 3 1/2 days Certified by G.E. Rotts M.B.	John Henry Henderson Widower of deceased Present at death 3 Bronte Villas Parade Road Milton	10th May 1906	K.E.M. Hammond Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the **20th** day of **September** 19**11**.

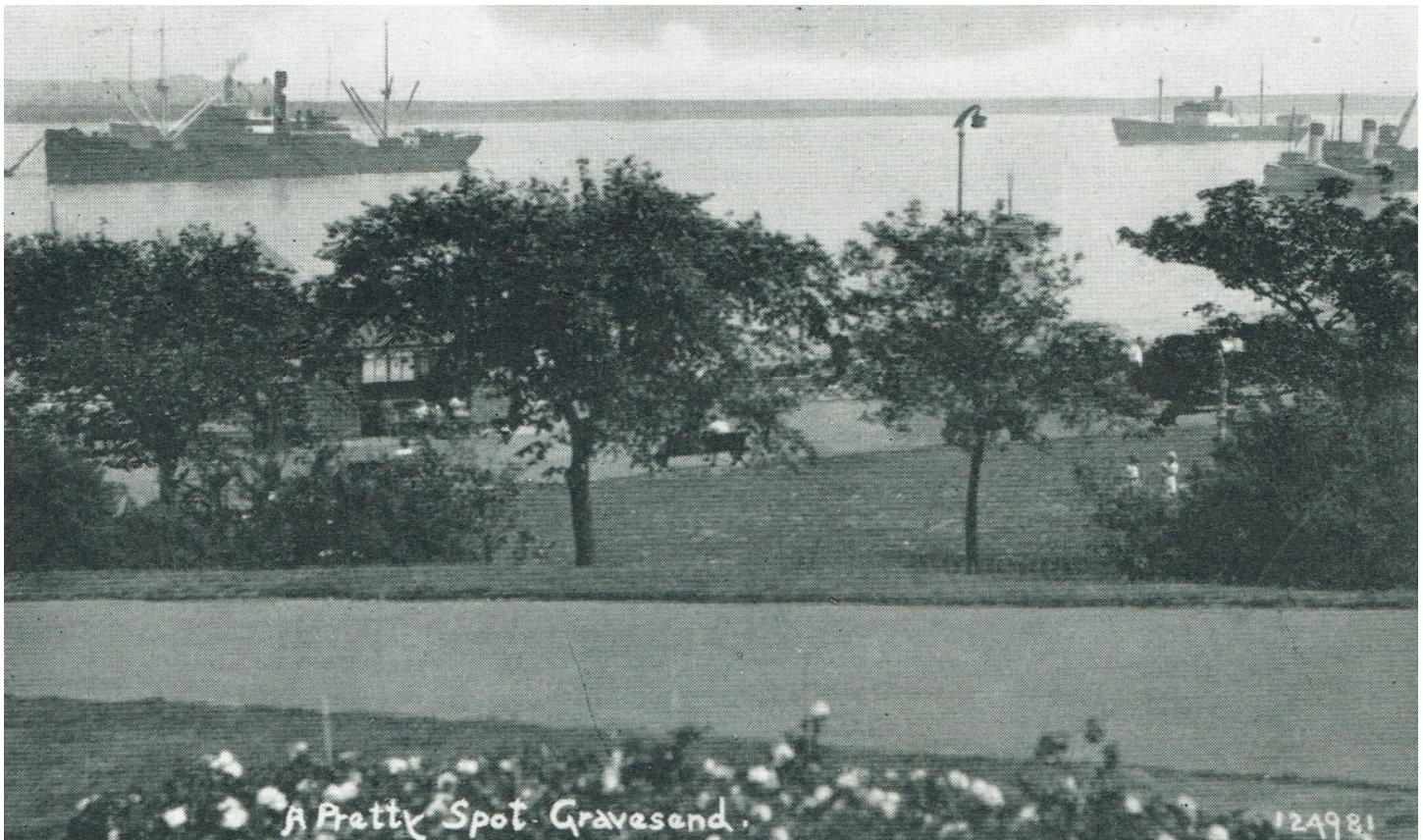
This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.
Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

DA 703190

John Henry and Ann Craggs Henderson had the following children: (The + indicates the child had children.)

- + M 1. **Vernon Henry Henderson** aka **Charles Duncan** was born on 4 Jun 1872. He died on 29 Jan 1947.
- + F 2. **Annie "Ti" Henderson** was born on 11 Sep 1874. She died on 27 May 1974.
- + M 3. **Leopold John Henderson** was born on 17 Jul 1877. He died on 6 Oct 1967.
- + F 4. **Rosa Kate Henderson** was born on 14 Jun 1879. She died on 4 Sep 1960.
- F 5. **Clara Henderson** was born on 18 Jun 1882. She died on 8 Feb 1955.
- F 6. **Dorothy Agnes "Dot" Henderson** was born on 22 Jul 1884. She died on 1 Aug 1970.
- + M 7. **Frank Henderson** was born on 7 Jul 1886. He died on 22 Apr 1963.
- F 8. **Winifred "Wyn" Henderson** was born on 3 Aug 1889. She died on 24 Jun 1947.
- M 9. **Harold Raymond "Ray" Henderson** was born on 8 Jun 1891. He died on 9 Jun 1965.
- F 10. **Alexandra Silvester "Silvia" Henderson** was born on 14 Nov 1893. She died on 2 Oct 1985.
- + F 11. **Marjorie Eunice "Molly" Henderson** was born on 12 May 1899. She died on 4 Oct 1998.



A Pretty Spot in Gravesend



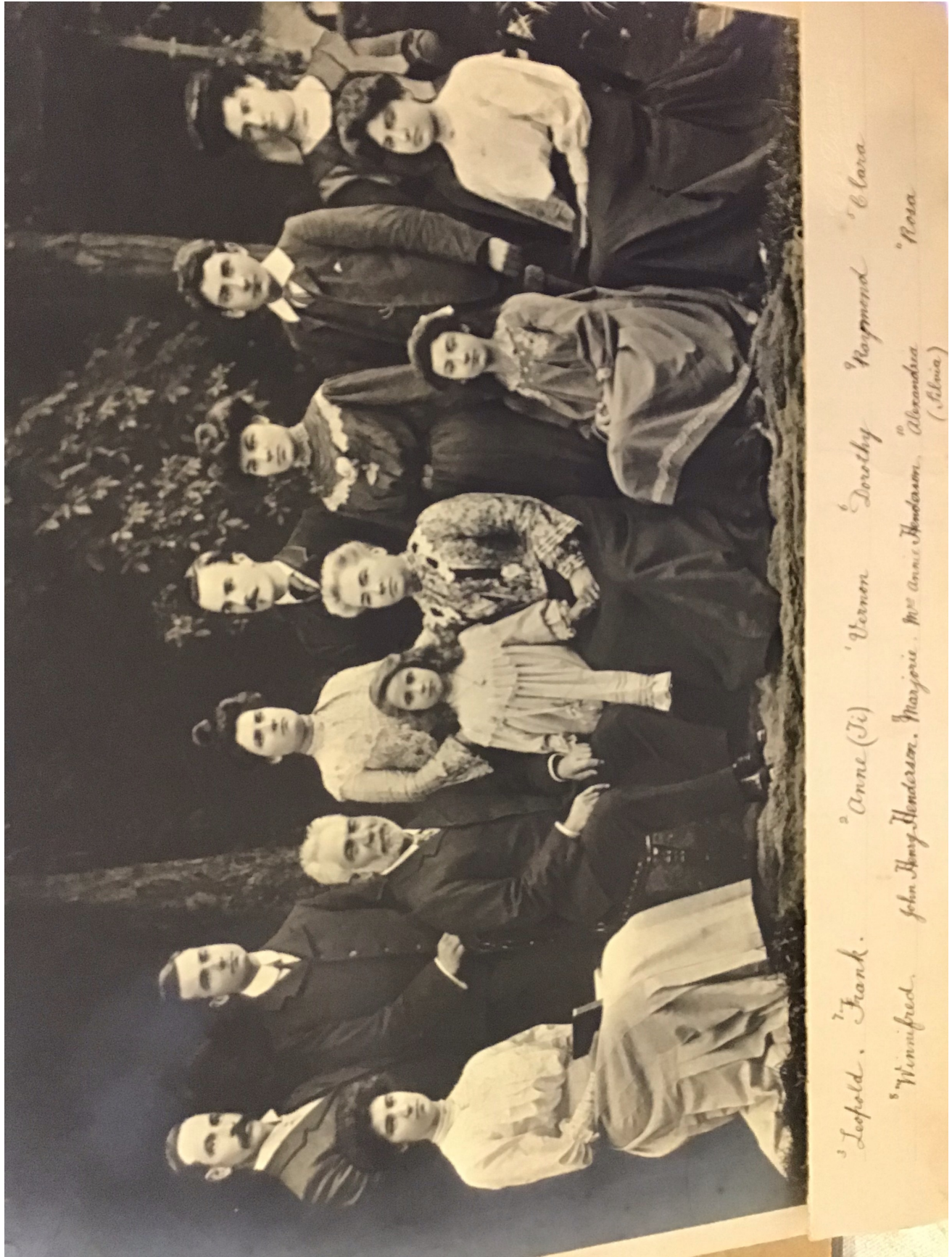
**John Henry &
Ann Craggs
Henderson with
seven of their
children at
3 Bronte Villas
in 1902.**

**Their chair
shown at right
and the table
were still in use
in the house in
2021.**





The Henderson Family in 1890, L to R: Leopold, Rosa, Dorothy, Frank standing in front of his father, John Henry, Vernon standing in back, Ann holding baby Winifred, Annie standing, Clara seated.



The Henderson Family, 18 Oct 1905. It was a common practice to complete a family's photo by filling in missing family members with existing photos, as has happened here for Leopold, Vernon, and Clara. Leopold and Clara were in Australia and Vernon was in the USA.



26 (above) and 28 (below) Pelham Road South, Gravesend, were owned by John Henry Henderson and managed as rental properties by his daughters Alexandra and Marjorie for decades after his death. Photos of the houses were taken by Steve Archer in 2014.



L to R: Dorothy, Rosa, Clare, & Winifred Henderson



3 Bronte Villas, 15 Parrock Road, Gravesend



Seaside in Margate, Kent, on 4 May 1937. L to R: Marjorie (Molly) Eunice Bridgwater, Pam Bridgwater, Dorothy (Dot) Elvidge, June Bridgwater, and Winifred (Wyn) Warboys



Dot and Molly, née Henderson, at Vazon Bay, Guernsey, June 1959



**Silvia Henderson & Lorna Backhouse at 3 Bronte Villas in 1966.
Photo courtesy of Lorna Backhouse in Jan 1986.**



**John Henry Henderson's china
cabinet photographed in
Oct 1984 at the Findon, Eng.,
home of Jim & Pam Garrett
(granddaughter of John Henry).**



**Lorna May Silvester & Marjorie Eunice
Bridgwater, nee Henderson, (1st cousins once
removed) visiting in the back garden of
3 Bronte Villas in 1950.
Courtesy of Lesley McCarthy**



Silvia Henderson at 3 Bronte Villas 1965



**Standing, L to R:
Molly Bridgwater, Rosa Symons,
Kathleen Barry**

**Seated, L to R:
Heather Anne Bridgwater,
Phyllis Symons**

Photos ca. 1959-1960



**Standing, L to R:
Rosa Symons, Kathleen Barry,
Dot Henderson,**

**Seated, L to R:
Silvia Henderson,
Heather Anne Bridgwater**



Three of the four sons of John Henry and Ann Craggs Henderson emigrated (two to Australia and one to the U.S.). At left, are descendants of those three sons.

L to R: Leopold's daughter Margaret Eunice Thomson, Frank's son Vernon Taylor Henderson and his daughter Fiona, and Vernon Henry's granddaughter Lorraine Schmidt.

Photo taken in Warrnambool, Victoria, Australia, in May 1985.



The John H. and Anne Craggs Henderson family tombstone in the Gravesend Municipal Cemetery shows John H. and Ann and their children Winifred, Clara, Ray, and Silvia. Shown to the right is their great-granddaughter Lorraine Schmidt.



John Henry Henderson also married **Mary "Polly" Silvester**, daughter of Frederick Silvester and Susan Upton, on 11 Jun 1907 in St. Helier, Island of Jersey, Channel Islands. Polly was born on 2 Feb 1850 in Northfleet, Kent, England. She was christened on 27 Apr 1851 in Southfleet, Kent, England. She died on 3 Feb 1922 in Gravesend, Kent, England. She was buried on 9 Feb 1922 in Gravesend, Kent, England. *For more information about Polly's first husband Alexander Holland and their children, see the James Holland section, and for more information about Polly's family, see the Silvester section, both in other volumes.*



Mary Silvester's birth certificate shows her birth on 2 Feb 1850 at Northfleet. Her parents are Frederick Silvester, gardener and informant living at Barrack Field, Northfleet, and Susan Silvester, nee Upton.

The Eng. Births & Christgs. transcr. shows Mary Silvester's christening on 27 Apr 1851 at Southfleet. Her parents are Frederic Silvester and Susan.

Elizabeth Silvester and Alfred Bunnett's 19 June 1873 marriage certificate shows Mary Silvester was a witness at their marriage in Gravesend.

Mary "Polly" Henderson, nee Silvester

JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S 1876, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1893 and 1894 DIARIES show the following entries relevant to Polly Holland nee Silvester (his wife's sister & John's 2nd wife after 1907)

Mon 23 Jan 1888 "Then met Alex Hollands & had a long talk to him about Polley."

Fri 1 Sep 1893 "Nell Silvester came up in the morning & we arranged to go up by 11.13 AM train tomorrow morning & go on board the Warrigal with her luggage. I advised her to go to Polleys her sister which she did but did not get a very good reception. G. Silvester was up in the evening."

Other 1876, 1886-1891, 1893 and 1894 diary entries show many visits and short trips shared with Polly, her husband and her children, as well as shipping and sailing talks between Alex and John. John spent more time visiting her and her sons after her husband died on 9 Oct 1893.

*****End of John Henry Henderson's diary entries for Polly Holland*****

The Gravesend Cemetery Records show Mary Silvester bought grave #3296 on 19 Oct 1893 [husband Alexander died on 9 Oct 1893]. She lived at 134 Milton Road, Gravesend.

The 1901 Milton census shows Mary Holland, 51, widow, living on own means, born in Northfleet, living at 134 Milton Rd. with her daughter Dora Mary, 19, single, a shorthand worker & typist, born in Milton-next-Gravesend.

John Henry Henderson's 27 Dec 1914 letter from his home at 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend, to his nephew Joe Bunnett, c/o University Club, Portland, Oregon, says, "Aunt Polly's boys are all doing well. They are all pilots now."

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number *03496*

REGISTRATION DISTRICT *East of London* in the Sub-district of *Southfleet* in the County of *Kent*

1852 BIRTH in the Sub-district of *Southfleet*

No.	When and where born	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration	

<i>1852</i>	<i>February 1852</i>	<i>Girl</i>	<i>Fredrick Silvester</i>	<i>Susan Silvester formerly Wilton</i>	<i>Gardener</i>	<i>Fredrick Silvester</i>	<i>Second Barrack Road, Northfleet, Kent</i>	<i>George Silvester</i>	<i>George Silvester</i>	
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CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the *21st* day of *September* 19 *79*

*See note overleaf

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

EXA 498101

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

Form A502M S3752 Dd 0534169 120m 5/79 Hw



Mary Henderson's will as typed by Pat O'Brien of Australia and sent to me states: "This is the Last Will & Testament of me Mary Henderson of three Bronte Villas Gravesend in the County of Kent made this 19th day of Sept. in the year 1918 I hereby revoke all wills made by me heretofore I appoint my sons Arthur Holland & Walter Holland to be my Executors [Note her son Alexander died on 23 Apr 1918 and her son Victor died on 30 Apr 1918.] & direct that all my debts & funeral expenses shall be paid as soon as conveniently may be after my decease I give & bequeath to my sons Arthur Holland & Walter Holland & my daughter Dora Mary Malby my daughters in law Kate Marian Holland & Elizabeth Holland all my worldly goods & possessions to be equally divided one fifth portion to each---Mary Henderson signed by the said Mary Henderson in the presence of us present at the time who at her request in her presence & in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses---Walter G. Nichols Sussex Villa Wrotham Rd. Gravesend Daisy G. Nichols "Sussex Villa" Wrotham Rd. Gravesend On the 8th day of March 1922 Probate of this will was granted to Arthur Holland and Walter Holland the executors."

Mary Henderson's death certificate shows her death on 3 Feb 1922 at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road [Gravesend]. She was 72 years old and the widow of John Henry Henderson, a trinity house pilot. She died of "cerebral haemorrhage and coma 7 hours". The informant and present at her death was W. Holland, her son. He lived at 9 Portland Road, Gravesend.

The Gravesend Cemetery Records show Mary Henderson was buried on 9 Feb 1922 in grave #3296 which she bought on 19 Oct 1893 soon after her husband Alexander Holland died. She lived at 3 Bronte Villas at her death and was age 72. Her burial was #28862.

The 18 Feb 1922 issue of the *Gravesend & Dartford Reporter* includes Mary Henderson's obituary:

"LATE Mrs. HENDERSON.

Funeral at Gravesend.

The funeral took place at Gravesend on Thursday of last week of Mrs. Mary Henderson, of 3, Bronte Villas, Gravesend, widow of the late Mr. John H. Henderson, a well-known pilot. The deceased lady died on February 3rd, which was only the day after her 72nd birthday. She had been in failing health of late, and after being taken with a seizure in the forenoon, she became unconscious, and passed away early in the evening. Mrs. Henderson belonged to the Silvester family and spent most of her early days at the then well-known pleasure gardens at Springhead.

A service was held at Christ Church, where the deceased lady had been a member of the congregation for many years, the Rev. J. T. Phillips officiating. The mourners present included Messrs. Arthur and Walter Holland (sons); Mr. Arthur Tulk, senr. (brother-in-law), Mr. Arthur Tulk, junr. (nephew), Mr. J. J. Sparrow, and Mr. R. Andrews.

The following sent floral tributes: Arthur and Alice; Walter, Flo and Eileen; Dora, Joe and family (Australia); Kate and Alec; Betty; George and family; Arthur Tulk, senr., and Hetty; Arthur and Grace Tulk; Dora, Douglas and Kenneth; Rose and Bert; Moll and Clare; Dot and Ralph; Silve and Wynn; Ned, Bessie and Jessie Bunnett; Mr. & Mrs. E. Upton; Ivo and Cis; Isobel and Ray; M. Nicholls; Mr. and Mrs. Andrews; Mr. and Mrs. Sparrow; Mr. and Mrs. Allen; Mr. and Mrs. De Wardt; Mr. and Mrs. Hollingum."

The E&W Natl. Probate Cal. shows Mary Henderson's death on 3 Feb 1922. She was a widow of 3 Bronte-villas, Parrock-road, Gravesend. Probate was in London on 8 Mar 1922 to Arthur Holland and Walter Holland, pilots. Her effects were £1,279 10s. 1d.

EXTRACT FROM THE REGISTER OF MARRIAGES

402

Of the Parish of S. Helier, in the Island of Jersey

ANNO DOMINI 1907

PAGE 401

ANNO DOMINI 1907

Marriage solemnized in the Parish of S. Helier, in the Island of Jersey.

No.	When Married.	Christian and Family Names of the Parties.	Age.	Condition.	Rank, Trade, or Profession.	Place of Residence at the time of Marriage.	Place of Birth.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank, Trade, or Profession of the Father.
120.	Eleventh June 1907.	John Henry Henderson.	59	Widower	None	S. Helier	Gravesend, Kent	John Henderson.	Pilot.
		Mary Holland, nee Silvester	57	Widow	-	S. Helier	Northfleet, Kent	Federick Silvester.	Licensed Victualler.

Married in the Wesleyan Chapel, Grove Place, by Licence of the Superintendent Registrar, by me,James Wood, Minister.

This Marriage was solemnized between us

{ John Henry Henderson.
Mary Silvester.

In presence of

{ Arthur Hanson.
Charles W. V. Stone.

Witnesses

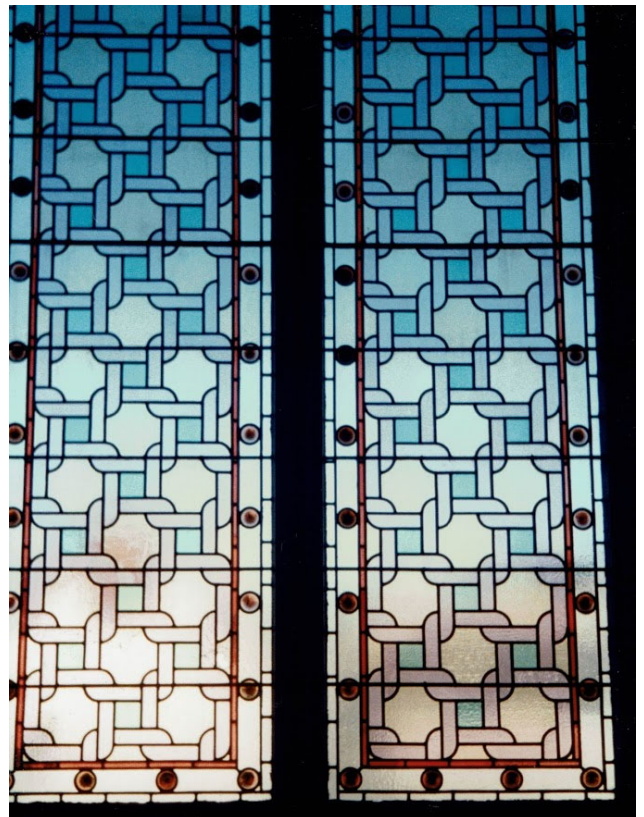
Phil. Le Neveu,
Registrar.I hereby certify that the above is a true and faithful Extract from the certified copies of the Register of Marriages of the Parish of S. Helier in the Island of Jersey.Witness my hand, this fourth day of October, 1907.Deputy
Superintendent Registrar.

Wesley Grove Methodist Church, St. Helier, Jersey

John Henry Henderson married Mary "Polly" Holland, nee Silvester, here on 11 Jun 1907.



Photos taken May 1997



St. Helier, Jersey, in May 1997

Harbor at St. Helier



**Liberation
statue near
the Harbor**



Views of and from the Mount Orgueil Castle (Gorey Castle)



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number 887211

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <u>Gravesend</u>									
<u>1922</u> . DEATH in the Sub-district of <u>Gravesend</u> in the County of <u>Kent</u>									
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
4853	Third February 1922 Villas Parrock Road u.D	Mary Henderson	Female	72 years	Widow of John Henry Henderson a Trinity House Pilot	1 Cerebral haemorrhage 2 Coma 7 hours Certified by C. E. Robbs M.B.	W Holland Son Present at death 9 Portland Road Gravesend	Sixth February 1922	K. E. M. Hammond Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 8th day of May 1920.

DA 720014

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.
Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:— Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution



1. **Vernon Henry Henderson** aka **Charles Duncan** (John Henry) was born on 4 Jun 1872 in Gravesend, Kent, England. He died on 29 Jan 1947 in Bellflower-Lakewood Rural, Los Angeles, California. He was buried on 31 Jan 1947 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California.

VERNON HENRY HENDERSON became CHARLES DUNCAN

[Author's recollections: On 21 Sep 1979 during my visit to England, Kathleen Barry (Vernon's sister Rosa's daughter) referred to "your grandfather Ver", and I asked why she referred to my grandfather Charles Duncan as "Ver". She said my grandfather, Vernon Henderson, called himself Charles Duncan when he arrived in America. I was flabbergasted and pelted her with questions. She would not tell me why he changed his name, but said there was nothing immoral or illegal about it and that he wasn't illegitimate. She said it was a silly thing and that he and his father got along well in later years. She said his father is John Henry Henderson and his mother is Ann Craggs Silvester.



Vernon Henry Henderson, living as Charles Duncan in America, lied to his wife and children (this author's father, aunt and uncle) when he told them his parents were Ann Craggs (nee Silvester) and Charles Duncan. His story went on to say that his father Charles died soon after his birth, and his mother Ann then married John Henry Henderson. Vernon/Charles referred to his ten brothers and sisters as half-siblings, when in fact, he was the oldest of the eleven full siblings, all children of John Henry and Ann Craggs Henderson.

Vernon/Charles told his son Charles that he had been captain of St. Andrew's Cricket Club in Gravesend. I had repeatedly puzzled over not finding my grandfather Charles Duncan listed as captain of the St. Andrew's Cricket Club in old newspapers, instead always seeing a V. or V. H. Henderson. There were no newspaper articles of the time in Gravesend on any topic naming a Charles Duncan.

That day with Kathleen Barry, 21 Sep 1979, was the first time I had heard about my grandfather being born Vernon Henry Henderson and changing his name to Charles Duncan. My father (his namesake) and his brother George had no idea, and their sister Agnes died not knowing this. Traditionally, my father would have been named Charles Duncan, III, when he was born, but his father knew there was no Charles I. As far as I know, my father's legal name was always Charles Duncan, Jr., even though Vernon/Charles never referred to himself verbally or on documents as Charles Duncan, Sr.

Vernon/Charles also mis-stated his age when he joined the army, claiming to be born in 1870 instead of 1872. The things that proved to be true were his mother's name and that he was indeed captain of the St. Andrew's Cricket Club in Gravesend.]

John Henry Henderson's 27 Dec 1914 letter from his home at 3 Bronte Villas, Gravesend, to his nephew Joe Bunnett, c/o University Club, Portland, Oregon, says, "My Ver the last I heard from him was at Fort Miley San Francisco California but I have not heard from him lately. He goes by the name of Chas. Duncan the name he adopted when he first joined their army over 20 years ago." [This proves that my grandfather was born Vernon Henderson and changed his name to Charles Duncan and that the entire family knew about it, except for Charles' wife, children and grandchildren.]

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number..... 11289

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <i>Gravesend</i> in the <i>County of Kent</i>										
1872. BIRTH in the Sub-district of <i>Gravesend</i>										
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
22945	<i>Birth, 25 Oct. 1872</i>	<i>Vernon</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>John Henry Henderson</i>	<i>Ann Craggs Henderson</i>	<i>Waterman</i>	<i>A. H. Henderson, Father, 14 Prospect Grove, Milton</i>	<i>27th Sept. 1872</i>	<i>John Henderson Registrar</i>	<i>—</i>

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the *27th* day of *September*, 19*79*.

*See note overleaf

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

BXA 499415

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

Form A502M S37362 Dd 0534169 120M 5/79 Hw



Vernon Henry Henderson aka Charles Duncan (1872 – 1947)



Photo by F. C. Gould, Gravesend



Photo by W. Wright



The Clock Tower in New Road, Gravesend, Vernon's home town. His father's diary shows they bought many hats, a shirt, and capes at Notton's, shown on the right side of the street.

VERNON HENRY HENDERSON'S EARLY YEARS IN ENGLAND

Vernon Henry Henderson's birth certificate shows his birth on 4 June 1872 at 14 Prospect Grove, Milton. His parents are John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester. John was a waterman and the informant living at the same address.

Silvia Henderson's Christmas 8 Nov 1958 letter to Ruth Duncan says, "Going through the music case last week I came across duets that Charles & Annie [Vernon and Annie Henderson] used to play together as children, written in Dad's [John Henry Henderson's] handwriting their names & the year 1884. I believe they were pretty good at music, & the choirs they sang in used to contest with other choirs at the Crystal Palace in London."

The following issues of the *Gravesend & Dartford Reporter* mention V. or V. H. Henderson:

26 May 1888	V. Henderson on St. Andrews Cricket Club team
4 Aug 1888	V. Henderson on St. Andrews (Presbyterian) Cricket Club team
18 Aug 1888	V. Henderson played on St. Andrews Cricket Club
25 Aug 1888	V. Henderson played on St. Andrews Cricket Club
15 Sep 1888	V. Henderson has his own team which played the St. Andrews Cricket Club
Summer 1891	V. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club
11 Jun 1892	V. H. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club
16 Jul 1892	V. H. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club
23 Jul 1892	V. H. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club
30 Jul 1892	V. H. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club
Sep 1892	V. H. Henderson was on St. Andrews Gravesend Cricket Club

[Nationalarchives.gov.uk shows St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was active in Gravesend from 1878-1956. The discovergravesham.co.uk shows St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in the Grove was demolished in 1961. In Sep 1979 Margaret Owen of 15 Parrock Rd., Gravesend, told me the Presbyterian Church was torn down years ago.]

The 1891 census of Milton shows Vernon, 18, grocer's assistant, born in Milton-next-Gravesend, living with his parents and siblings at 3 Bronte Villas, Parrock Road.

JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S 1876, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1893 and 1894 DIARIES
show the following entries relevant to his son Vernon Henry Henderson.

1876, age 4

Thurs 8 Jun	"In the evening built a rabbit's hutch to hold Vernie's two rabbits."
Mon 3 Jul	"Then put two new wheels on Vernie's pony."
Tue 25 Jul	"Took Vernie to school, this his second day."
Wed 2 Aug	"Vernie & I then went & bought a slate for him to take to school."
Wed 6 Sep	"In the afternoon made Vernie a kite and after flew it for him."
Fri 13 Oct	"Brought Vernie a pair of boots. Took Vernie to change the boots & bought him a pencil case in the evening & afterwards bought him another pair spring order."
Thurs 19 Oct	"Yesterday Annie promised Susey [her sister] she would go to London to day with her so off she went. I undertook to mind house so I made Vernie some bricks, Geo doing a doll's house."
Sat 11 Nov	"Took Vernie out for a walk. Bought him a Noah's Ark with the money he saved."

1886, age 13-14

- Wed 3 Mar "Went out in the evening with Ver. Bought him a violin case."
 Sat 3 Apr "In the evening enjoyed some music with Ver & felt very thankful to God for his mercies in providing such a comfortable home."
 Mon 17 May "In the evening the gardner brought me some dahlias which he planted and I paid him 2/6 for six. [Charles Duncan, Jr., always said his father Charles Duncan (aka Ver) loved dahlias.]
 Tue 13 Jul "Went to London by 10.27 train Tilbury with Vernon, Leo, and Henry Silvester. Had Vernon apprenticed to myself at the Watermens Hall."

1887, age 14-15

- Wed 19 Jan "Called first at Mr. White's in Windmill St. Agreed with him to coach Ver for civil service Examinations."
 Fri 3 Jun "Went to Boormans the jewellers and bought a gold chain for Ver for his birthday present tomorrow."
 Sat 4 Jun "Ma gave Ver his birthday gift and we wished him many happy returns of the day. He is fifteen."
 Thurs 14 Jul "Ver has been to London to try to pass for Boy clerk in the civil service."
 Fri 15 Jul "Ver has gone to London again to day. This is the last day of the examination. I hope he will suceed in getting among the first 60 as then he will get a place."
 Tues 30 Aug "Ver walked to Maidstone to day. Saw the cricket between Notts & Kent."
 Fri 16 Sep "I took Vernie up with me to day just to give him a blow on the river. We then walked over London Bridge to Fenchurch St. and came down by the 2.38 train."

Several entries in autumn 1887 mention Ver playing the piano and the violin.

- Sun 13 Nov "Ver & I went for a walk in the afternoon, also to the pier, then home to tea, & in the evening, Ma, Ver, & I went to Princess St. chapel. We then came home. I wrote to Aunt Rosa this evening, asking her to accept Ver as a weekly boarder as he goes to business tomorrow in London "Post office".
 Mon 21 Nov "Give Vernie a note to Aunt Rosa, enclosing weekly payment for his board."

1888, age 15-16

- Tue 6 Mar "Last night I called at Robbins the watchmakers, Leo & I, & got Ver's watch which had been left to be cleaned."
 Thurs 8 Mar "Give Ver my pilotage order for the Antenor to get cashed as he was going to London to see the Civil service commission. On coming home he told us to our surprise that they had sent from the Trinity House for a Boy clerk so they give him a letter to go there tomorrow morning at 10 AM. Truly the hand of the Lord is in this or at least I hope so for the dad's sake. God grant that it may be so."
 Fri 9 Mar "Then waited up till Ver came home. This being his first day at the Trinity House, was waiting to hear the result. He went to Aunt Rosa's afterwards so did not get home till eleven PM.
 Mon 4 Jun "...to day is Ver's birthday 16 years old. We made him a present of a book & two some gloves &c."
 Wed 20 Jun "Ver was studying hard to night, writing composition &c. I hope he will pass his examination next July."
 Thurs 12 Jul "Ver has been undergoing his examinations to day for the Trinity House & Boyclerkship on civil service."
 Mon 16 Jul "Ver went to Trinity House."
 Sat 21 Jul "After dinner I went & saw the young men of St. Andrews club playing a match of cricket with Chalk. Ver was Captain to day."
 Tues 7 Aug "Ver went to Trinity House to get paid off having lost the position he held there through not getting a sufficient number of marks by five at the examination held by the civil service Commissioners. It is very disappointing but perhaps it is all for the best."

*****1893 & 1894 JOHN HENRY HENDERSON DIARY entries continue after 1892 fire details*****

"Great Fire at Gravesend A Public House and Shop Burnt Down Damage to other Houses
 Shortly before midnight on Tuesday when people had returned to their homes and nocturnal quietude restored in the streets, an outbreak of fire was discovered in the shop of Mr. V. H. Henderson, grocer and wine merchant, 28, The Terrace, and no sooner was the discovery made than an alarm was raised, and

speedily the locality became the scene of great excitement, for from the hold the flames had already on the building and the rapid progress which they were making, showed that a large & valuable block of buildings were in imminent danger of becoming a prey to the devouring element.

Immediate steps were taken to arouse the attention of the inmates, but as no response could be obtained it was concluded that no one was at the time upon the premises. Mr. Hooper, proprietor of the "City of London" public house, adjoining on the west, was then called and at once realising the danger of the situation, he communicated with the authorities at the Police-station, and in a brief space of time the members of the Fire Brigade arrived at the spot with the necessary hose and other equipments, and with as little delay as possible they commenced operations to extinguish the fire. There was a good supply of water, but in respect of one of the branches of hose a small stone getting into the nozzle interrupted the efforts of the firemen for a few seconds. Everything in full working order, three branches of hose were being vigorously plied, these being connected w/ hydrants situated in Terrace-street, Harmer-street, and in The Terrace, near the Clarendon Hotel. By this triple means, a large quantity of water was thrown on the burning mass, but some time elapsed before any appreciable impression was made upon it.

Meanwhile, through the buildings consisting for the most part wood, with only lathe and plaster party walls, the flames were making rapid incursions upon the buildings on either side of the seat of the outbreak and in the case of the City of London this fact was proved by the frequent explosions caused by the bursting of vessels containing spirituous liquors, owing to the inflammable nature of the contents of the shop and public-house combined with the character of the structures, it was found absolutely impossible to save them from total destruction, and in an almost incredibly short space of time they became one mass of flame, whose reflection was visible for many miles. In these circumstances the Brigade did the wisest thing, viz., adopt means for limiting the extent of the fire, to which end they directed water on the houses on the west side of Crosslane, and also on the residences abutting on the grocer's shop to the east, under the open roofs of which the flames were creeping apace.

The house immediately adjoining the shop, viz., No. 29, belongs to Mr. G. Tansley, Trinity pilot, and for a long time he has resided there with his family. No. 30 is the property of Mr. W. Mulley, Trinity pilot, who with his family was also in occupation while No. 31 had only a few days before been taken possession of by Mr. George Berry, preparatory to his relinquishing his duties of Superintendent of the Borough Police Force. The damage in each of these three cases was considerable from fire and water, but had it not been for the energy and tact of the firemen the houses would in all probability have been rased to the ground, and the property still further east would have been imperiled; as it was the damage in respect to it was only slight although the occupants were preparing to remove their furniture in case of necessity. Their premises, however, were secured through the firemen cutting away the gable at the eastern end of Mr. Berry's house, whereby they were able to inject a stream of water under the tiles so extinguishing the fire which had already got well hold of the rafters, as might be seen from the tongues of flames shooting through the crevices. Although the flames were got under in this way, the roofs were so far damaged as to be useless, while the water penetrated the ceilings and down the staircases, that the cellars were filled to overflowing. While the loss is serious in the case of Messrs. Tansley and Mulley, it seems that special sympathy is due to Mr. Berry from the fact of the great inconvenience--to say nothing of his heavy loss--that will accrue to him at the critical period when he was retiring from the active duties of a responsible position to enjoy what we hope may be a lengthened term of well-earned rest. Much of his furniture was new and adapted to the residence, but not a little of it may be regarded as destroyed. The most serious loss, however, was sustained by Mr. Henderson and Mr. Hooper, whose premises have been entirely demolished together with all they contained, and on Wednesday morning the site was covered with a heap of smouldering ruins, while the various apartments of Mr. Tansley's house were exposed to view, the partition having been burnt away; the roof was also gone and the front wall appeared to be in great danger of falling from slightest pressure of wind or other cause.

FURTHER INFORMATION

From inquiry of Mr. V. H. Henderson, we learn that on the night of the fire he and an assistant (Mr. Gilbert Taylor), were sleeping on the premises. They went to bed about eleven o'clock when the fires and gas were out, there being nothing to cause any apprehension. About 11.30 they were aroused by loud knocking at the shop front, and coming downstairs they were met by a volume of smoke, and opening the back parlour door they found the shop filled with smoke rendering it necessary to re-close the door to prevent suffocation. They then escaped the premises at the back, and apprised Mr. Hooper, of the "City of London" of the fact, and together they communicated with the Fire Brigade, who arrived and commenced operations in due course.

Mr. G. Tansley, of No. 29, and the household had retired to rest, and at 11.30 they were awoke by the violent ringing of the door bell, supposed by the mate of the Undaunted steamtug. The inmates thus had time to dress, but deigning it advisable to leave the premises they went to Mr. Roxberry's and afterwards to the Custom House where they were accommodated for the night. Subsequently, Mrs. Tansley and her sister (Miss Loft) repaired to the residence of Mr. E. Wallis, Old-road, Mr. Tansley, jun., and his sister at the Custom House. A very few articles were removed from the house, and the whole of the contents including a very large stock of linen were destroyed by fire or water. Happily, Mr. Tansley's legal documents were in safe custody at the bank, with one exception, and that was afterwards recovered.

Mr. Mulley's family residing at No. 30, removed to the house of a relative in Park-place. The damage in this case was considerable. Mr. Hooper, of the "City of London" lost amongst his property a case of jewellery of the value of about £200. Major Newington, R.M.L.I. commanding the Musketry Depot, and Garrison Sergt.-Major Jeffrey were present at the fire some considerable time prepared to render assistance if necessary.

INSURANCE

Fortunately, the property was insured, although in some cases, we understand, much under value. The freehold of the City of London is held by Mr. E. Wallis, who was insured in the Royal Exchange, while Mr. Hooper, the occupier, had insured the contents partly in the Royal Exchange and partly in the North British and Mercantile, of which Mr. H. Seale, New-road, is local agent.

Mr. Henderson, grocer and wine merchant, 28 The Terrace, had his stock and other contents insured with Messrs. Spain and Son, of the Phoenix Fire office, the premises belonging to Mrs. Spain (widow of the late M. T. R. Spain) were insured in the Kent Fire office, of which Mr. J. H. Cooper, King-street, is local agent.

No. 29, the property of Mr. Tansley, occupier, is insured in the Norwich Union office (Mr. W. G. Penman, local agent) the contents being insured with Messrs. Tolhurst, Lovell and Clinch, local agents for the Sun Office. Miss Loft, sister of Mrs. Tansley, held a separate policy in the same office, for her property.

Mr. Mulley, owner and occupier of No. 30, had his house insured in the Sun Fire office.

Mr. Berry, tenant of No. 31, whose loss is great from fire and water, had his contents insured in the Royal Exchange, with Messrs. Sharland and Hatten, but he had intended increasing the amount owing to the valuable additions going into his new house. The house belongs to Mrs. Martin (widow of the late Mr. Jos. Martin) who now resides with a son at Malden in Essex, and is insured in the Alliance.

AGE of the PROPERTY

The property affected by the fire was, we learn, built about a century ago (1791) by a relative of the late Rector of Gravesend. Originally the row of houses extended as far as East Terrace-street, but three of them were removed when Harmer-street was formed."

The Sat. 22 Oct 1892 issue of the *Gravesend Journal, Northfleet and Galley Hill Chronicle* includes this article about the fire in which Vernon Henry Henderson was involved:

"DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT GRAVESEND. THREE HOUSES DESTROYED

Gravesend, which has been free from any serious fire for some few years, was on Tuesday night last again visited by the destruction element in all its fury. It appears that about 11.25 on the night in question, Mr. Roxberry, jun., who resides at No. 32, The Terrace, discovered an outbreak of fire in the shop of Mr. Henderson, No. 28, The Terrace, where a grocery and wine and spirit business was carried on. Mr. Roxberry at once gave the alarm, and P. C. Johnson, who was on duty in the vicinity, proceeded with all dispatch to the Police-station for the purpose of communicating the information and summoning the Fire Brigade to the spot. While the members of the brigade were being called together, P. S. Porter (foreman), P. S. Avis and others hastened to the scene of action with ladders and the hose reel, and with as little delay as possible the hose was connected, hydrants being fixed in The Terrace, Terrace street, and Harmer-street. Chief-constable Berry (captain of the brigade) was one of first to respond to the call, his residence being at No. 31, The Terrace, whence he had recently removed from the Market-place in view of his retirement from the Borough Police Force, and before long the whole of the members of the Fire Brigade were in attendance. The occupants of the adjoining houses had by this time been made aware of the threatening danger of a conflagration, and it is almost needless to say that alarm ran high amongst residents in the neighbourhood, especially as it was known that many of the houses on the Terrace were largely composed of wood, lath, and plaster. Mr. Thomas Hooper, the landlord of the City of London Tavern, was warned of the close proximity of the fire as he was going through the days' accounts. He immediately looked after the safety of the occupants of the house, and secured what papers and valuables came to hand. During this time the fire was spreading with alarming rapidity, and it became apparent that not only was the shop where the fire originated inevitably doomed, but there was very little chance of saving the City of London Tavern.

Large numbers of people now began to assemble, and the sight became a grand and weird one, the flames shooting up towards the heavens with lurid brilliance, at times lighting up the whole of the vicinity and reflecting distinctly on the water of the Thames. This was particularly noticeable as the fire progressed in its work of demolition and the spirits became ignited, and the fire must then have been plainly discernible from the Essex side of the river. Foreman Porter, Firemen Edwards and Pagram occupied positions on the roof at the back of the grocer's shop, and from this somewhat dangerous place of vantage were enabled to pour copious streams of water into the very midst of the fire. Firemen Lipscombe, Johnson and another, mounted on ladders supported against the buildings, were doing their utmost to prevent the advance of the fire in the direction of Harmer-street. This was a difficult task for there were found to be no parting walls at the summit of the houses, and the flames were creeping along under the roofs as though confined in a flue. Chief-constable Berry and the members of the Fire Brigade worked most zealously to get the fire under, but the nature of the buildings were undoubtedly much against their efforts being attended with any very successful results. Before long the shop referred to and the City of London Tavern were reduced to one mass of ruins, while the residences of Messrs. George Tansley and James Mulley, 29 and 30, The Terrace, respectively, were also extensively damaged. In fact, the side of the first-mentioned house, nearest the fire, was completely burnt away, exposing in a curious fashion the half burnt and soaking furnishings of the rooms which have thereby been rendered worthless. The roofs of the houses occupied by Messrs. G. Berry and J. Roxberry also suffered considerable damage from the fire, as also did the furniture from the combined effects of fire and water. The fire was got under about 3.30 the following morning, but it was found necessary to have a fireman on the spot during the whole of that day and the following night in case of a further outbreak, the smouldering ruins being played upon at intervals.

We regret to learn that Chief-constable Berry injured his back in some way during the progress of the fire, while Mr. T. Hooper strained the sinews of his left leg by falling over a hose pipe. We understand that Mr. Hooper is insured in the North British and Mercantile Office, while Mr. Henderson and the others whose property was injured, we believe, were also more or less insured."



28 The Terrace, a vacant lot in 2014 to the left of the City of London pub in Gravesend, was the site of a grocery store operated by Vernon Henderson and destroyed by fire in 1892.

2014 Photos by Steve Archer.

28 The Terrace shown from the back alley.



City of London, 27 The Terrace, Gravesend, burned down 18 Oct 1892 and was rebuilt in 1893. Henry R. D. Hooper was the licensed victualler alerted by Vernon Henry Henderson and his assistant Gilbert Taylor from the burning grocery store next-door. Vernon & Gilbert had been sleeping above the grocery store when they were awakened by a passerby.

Photos of pub taken 27 Oct 1984.



The 12 Nov 1892 issue of *The Reporter* [for Gravesend and Dartford] listed attendees of the recent annual council meeting in Gravesend. The names included the following whose homes burned in the above fire: Councillor E. Wallis and Messrs. G. Berry, G. Tansley, T. R. Loft, and T. B. Loft.

The 26 Nov 1892 issue of the *Gravesend Journal, Northfleet and Galley Hill Chronicle* shows, "Gravesend Fires--The recent conflagrations at Gravesend on Tuesday, the 18th of October, when two houses were burnt down and others seriously damaged, on the Terrace, and again on Thursday, the 10th of November when Messrs. Sandford's engineering works on the river-bank were partially destroyed, call to mind the unenviable notoriety acquired by Gravesend during the last and present centuries for the frequency and magnitude of its fires."

The 1890 *Webster's Year Book & Directory of Gravesend, Milton & Northfleet* shows these residents of The Terrace, Gravesend:

- No. 27--Martin, E. "City of London"
- No. 28--Spain, T. R. (Executors of the late), grocers
- No. 29--Tansley, George, pilot
- No. 30--Hunter, James, pilot
- No. 31--Martin, Mrs.

The 1891 census of Milton and the Eccles. Parish of Holy Trinity shows the following living at The Terrace:

- No. 27--Henry R. D. Hooper, licensed victualler, and servants
- No. 28--unoccupied
- No. 29--George Tansley, Trinity House pilot, and family
- No. 30--William Mulley, Trinity House pilot, and family
- No. 31--Anna Martin, widow, living on own means, and family.

The 1891 and 1892 *Webster's Year Book & Directory of Gravesend, Milton & Northfleet* shows these residents of The Terrace, Gravesend:

- No. 27--Hooper, Henry R. D. "City of London"
- No. 28--unoccupied
- No. 29--Tansley, George, pilot
- No. 30--Mulley, James, pilot
- No. 31--Martin, Mrs.

The 1893 *Caddell's Year Book & Directory of Gravesend, Milton & Northfleet* shows these residents of The Terrace, Gravesend:

- No. 27---Thomas Hooper of "City of London"
- No. 28, 29, 30, and 31---unoccupied.

The 1894 *Webster's Year Book & Directory of Gravesend, Milton & Northfleet* shows these residents of The Terrace, Gravesend:

- No. 27--Hooper, Thomas "City of London"
- No. 28--no house
- No. 29--Tansley, George
- No. 30--Mulley, William
- No. 31--Berry, George.

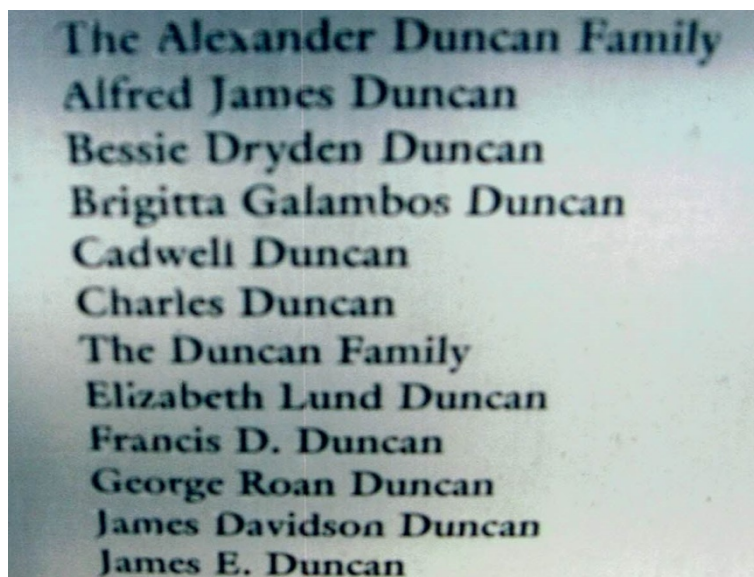
The 1905 *Kelly's Directory of Gravesend, Milton, Northfleet, & Dist.* shows these residents of The Terrace, Gravesend:

- No. 27---City of London P.H.---Mrs. S. Smith
- No. 28---Read, Alfred, pilot
- No. 29---Ball, Mrs. C.

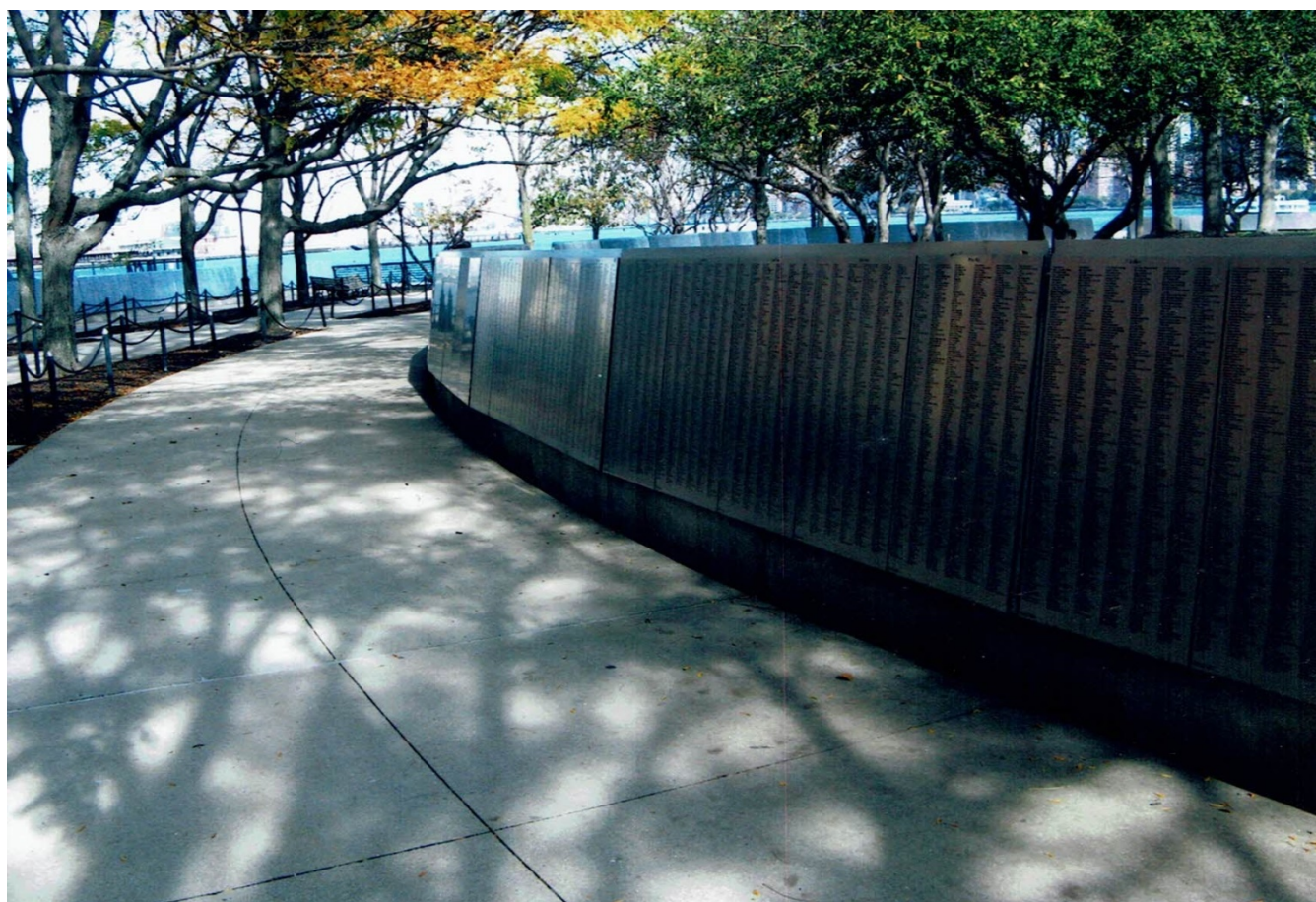
[Note that Mr. Tansley and Mr. Mulley were pilots and often mentioned in John Henry Henderson's diaries as associates of John in their work as Trinity House pilots. This might have caused some awkwardness for John Henry and led to Vernon's emigration to America.]



The City pub (formerly the City of London),
27 The Terrace, Gravesend.
Photo by Steve Archer in 2014.



After the fire on 18 Oct 1892, Vernon Henry Henderson left England and arrived on 31 Dec 1892 in New York City as Charles Duncan. His new name is shown above on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor at Ellis Island in New York Harbor, shown below. He never told his wife and children that he had been born Vernon Henry Henderson and changed his name. He claimed his father is Charles Duncan, the first husband of Ann Craggs Silvester, and that after his death, Ann married John Henry Henderson, giving Charles ten half siblings. This is untrue; he had ten full siblings.



On page 8 of the 27 Dec 1914 letter from John Henry Henderson to his nephew, Joe Bunnett, John states his son Ver adopted the name of Charles Duncan. This is the only document found that confirms Vernon Henry Henderson changed his name to Charles Duncan. Refer to John Henry Henderson's notes for the full transcription of this 11-page letter.

My Vis the Last I heard from
him was at Fort Riley
San Francisco California but -
I have not heard from him
lately he goes by the name
of Chas Duncan the name
he adopted when he first
joined their army over 20 years
ago Leo is still at his
farm in Australia & Frank
is a Carpenter in Sydney
is married & has 2 children
Ray is in Woolwich Arsenal
assistant Electrical Draughtsman
Clara is nursing wounded
soldiers in France. Winnie
& Silvia are training in hospitals
at Exeter & Southampton
respectively

Vernon/Charles never told his family that he was born Vernon. Did he ever consider it? Perhaps he did when he spent time with his son, Charles Duncan, Jr., who shared these memories: My father taught me to row a boat in Strawberry Lake in the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. He played chess with me. He used to play the piano, and my sister Agnes and I would sing along. One song he taught us was, "When the ship is trim and ready and the jolly days are gone....", and I remember quite a lot of the melody. I learned to sing from my father who was quiet and didn't like to talk about his trip to the U.S. or life in England or why he came to the U.S.

First verse and chorus of the song Charles taught Charles and Agnes.

THEY ALL LOVE JACK.

When the ship is trim and ready,
and the jolly days are done,
When the last good-byes are
whispered, and Jack aboard is
gone;

The lasses fall a weeping, as they
watch his vessel's track,
For all the landsmen lovers are
nothing after Jack-
For all the landsmen lovers are
nothing after Jack.

Chorus.

For his heart is like the sea. ever
open, brave and free,
And the girls must lonely be till
the ship comes back;
But if love's the best of all that
can a man befall,
Why, Jack's the king of all, for
they all love Jack!

NAME CHANGE to "Charles Duncan" and EMIGRATION to the United States

The Passenger Lists Leaving UK 1890-1960 shows Mr. C. Duncan departing Liverpool on 21 Dec 1892 on "Britannic" bound for New York. He was a single adult.

The Ellis Island Records show Charles Duncan arrived on 31 Dec 1892 from Liverpool on the "Britannic". It was built for White Star and Dominion Lines in 1874 and was the fastest ship on the Atlantic in 1876. He was 20, English, and his residence was Kent. He had 3 pieces of luggage and was a transient. His occupation was wine and spirits and his intended destination was New York. The New York Passenger and Crew Lists also show this information. The Norway-Heritage website shows this ship took seven days to cross the Atlantic from Liverpool to New York at this time.

Kathleen Barry's 24 Apr 1980 letter to me from her home at 25, Cliff Parade, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, says she doesn't know if there was any reason for Vernon to pick the name Charles Duncan. Nobody has heard of any family of that name around Gravesend.

Kathleen Barry's 5 Aug 1980 letter to me said no one in her immediate family could remember the "Admiral Duncan" pub in Gravesend and doesn't know why Vernon chose the surname Duncan when he emigrated to the U.S. She wrote that her mother (Vernon's sister Rosa) used to say he was a very gentle brother, liked music and was very keen on cricket. He once walked from Gravesend to Maidstone [about 18 miles each way] to watch a match. He didn't seem to like the life of a river pilot, which must have been a big disappointment to his dad.

Kathleen's 20 Sep 1980 letter to me says Vernon worked at Trinity House in London at one time, but not for long. He was unlucky with the marks for the exams there and was later apprenticed to the grocery business. His father kept diaries for several years and wrote with great affection in them about his son Vernon.

Kathleen Barry told me in Jun 1982 that Vernon was too artistic to enjoy the rough and ready life of a river pilot. He and Harry Rackstraw were apprenticed to a grocer in London for about three years. There was a fire [in Gravesend where Vernon lived and worked], the police were called to the house, Vernon was somehow involved, and it was the reason he emigrated and changed his name. He worked long hours there and wouldn't get home until midnight six days a week and then would go to church two or three times on Sunday, which was their main form of socializing. He led a very hard life. He wasn't paid anything, but his father had to pay to have him apprenticed. The fire in the grocery was such a scandal or disgrace that John Henry's diary for that year (1892) was destroyed by one of his daughters (perhaps Dot?) who was so ashamed she didn't go to church for two to three years afterwards.

[I have always wondered how my grandfather chose the name "Charles Duncan" and the following paragraphs contain details that caught my eye and may have caught his eye. Did he pick the name of a local pub, or did he choose a name in his extended family?]

The *History, Gazetteer & Directory of the County of Kent, 1847, Vol. 1* by Samuel Bagshaw published in 1847 lists The Admiral Duncan [closed around 1860 before Vernon was born] as being owned or operated by Henry Wissenden at 1 Pleasant Row.

The marriage certificate of Lawrance Robert Duncan and Elizabeth Craigie Bruce shows their marriage on 16 May 1851 at St. Thomas' Stepney in the parish of Stepney, Middlesex. They were both of full age and lived in Stepney. He was a bachelor whose father is John Duncan. She was a spinster whose father is William Bruce. Lawrance and both fathers were mariners. They married after banns, and witnesses were William Mason (his mark) and Isabella Jermy. The Scotland, Select Births & Bapt. shows Elisabeth Craigie Bruce's baptism on 23 Dec 1821 at North Leith, Midlothian, Scotland. Her parents are William Bruce and Gifford Henderson. The Scotland Select Marr. transcr. shows Gifford Henderson's (female) marriage to William Bruce on 20 May 1813 at North Leith, Midlothian, Scotland. [Note Charles was a

direct descendant of Bruce and Henderson families. His father was a Trinity House pilot who frequently traveled to Stepney for work. I have not shown that Lawrance and Elizabeth Duncan are related to my Henderson and Bruce families, but they are all mariners like my family.]

John Eric Symons' Dec 1994 letter to me says he doesn't know exactly why Vernon left England and changed his name. John believes the family was upset because they felt Ver had let his father down. His father was disappointed. Ver was a bit unlucky with his exams. The family felt so strongly that one daughter physically destroyed all her father's diaries covering a period of 2 or 3 years dealing with Ver.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s biography says his father probably arrived in New York in about late 1892 or 1893 and got a job playing the piano for a vaudeville act, but didn't last long as he didn't play by ear like they wanted. He played by notes and mostly classical music. He joined the Army soon after to keep from starving.

In my 3 Feb 2005 conversation with my father, he said when his father first came to the U.S., he played the piano with a group of musicians who travelled around. He left the group after a few months and joined the Army.

JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S 1893 and 1894 DIARIES
show the following entries relevant to his son Vernon Henry Henderson

1893, age 20-21

Thurs 5 Jan "In the afternoon I went skating, having received a visit from a sheriffs officer about Ver."
Thurs 22 Jun "Received letter from Ver this morning I did a little writing."
Wed 23 Aug "Received letter of reconciliation & repentance from Ver."

1894, age 21-22

Mon 1 Jan "Began the year looking out for the Steamer Persian Monarch which came up at noon and I anchored her off Tilbury and we discharged the cattle into the Racoon. A Mr. Potter came home in her who I had asked, when going away, to try & see Ver. He did so and told me he was going on allright."
Thurs 15 Mar "Called at Dicks shoe warehouse & bought two pairs of boot & paid a small a/c of Ver's."
Mon 4 Jun "This is Ver's birthday so we wished him many happy returns across the sea."
Tues 12 Jun "Wrote in evening to Ver & Leo &c."
Sat 13 Oct "Wrote to Ver in the afternoon."
Tues 18 Dec "Wrote to Ver in the morning."
Wed 19 Dec "I posted *Illustrated London News*, [The] *Graphic* & *Pall Mall Budget* to Ver, cost 10d."
Sat 29 Dec "Went out to see Mr. Holland & sent Ver's letter. Also one to Superintendent of Dead Letter office, Washington, DC, America. Quote Letter H. No 1857, Vol. 26.--about the fur gloves Ver is sending me."

*****End of JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S DIARY entries for son Vernon, aka Charles Duncan*****

Charles Duncan's Cert. of Naturalization Petition, Vol. 2, p. 11, Stub Vol. 4714, p. 18 describes him as age 38, 5'8", dark complexion, brown eyes, gray hair, unmarried, no minor children, formerly subject of Great Britain, living at 2243 Howard St., Omaha, Nebraska. He applied for citizenship on 8 May 1909. He has lived continuously within the U.S. for at least five years and in Nebraska for one year.

MARRIAGE

The Albion Weekly News [Nebraska] includes these items about Fannie Gee and Charles Duncan in the issues dated:

- 22 Apr 1909 Charles, of Omaha, visited on Sun. & Mon. at the G. W. Gee home.
- 24 Jun 1909 Charles, of Omaha, spent Sun. as a guest at the Geo. Gee home.
- 5 Aug 1909 This Thursday issue shows, "Duncan-Gee. A very pretty wedding took place Friday morning at seven o'clock at the Episcopal church when Miss Fannie S. Gee of this city was united in marriage to Mr. Charles Duncan of Omaha. The words of the ceremony were spoken by Rev. Arthur Cash, of Geneva, formerly rector here. The wedding march was played by Miss Lottie Becher of Columbus, a friend of the bride. The bride was very tastily attired in her going away gown. Only the relatives and a few friends were in attendance at the wedding. Immediately after the service at the church a delightful three-course breakfast was served at the house. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Gee, Sr., and was raised here. She is an estimable young lady and has a host of friends with whom the News delights to join in wishing them abundance of happiness. The groom, while not known here, has the appearance of being a worthy young man. The groom and his bride took their departure on the Union Pacific for Manila, P.I., where he holds a position with the regular army. They were accompanied as far as Columbus by the bride's sisters, Misses Agnes and Sara Gee and Misses Lottie and Marguerite Becher of Columbus and Anna Ames of Genoa."
- 2 Sep 1909 She wrote her folks a letter from Honolulu where they stopped for a few days before going on to Manila. They had had a delightful voyage so far. Her letter was received on Sat.
- 14 Oct 1909 A letter received from her on Sat. from the Philippines said they arrived at Manila on 31 Aug, having had ideal weather all the way and both feeling fine.
- 2 Jun 1910 "News comes from the Philippines of the birth at Manila of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duncan on April 22d last. Mr. Duncan is a civil service clerk in the War Department and was on duty at the Army building in Omaha from December, 1907, to July, 1909. Prior to this he saw service with the regular army in Porto Rico during the Spanish-American war and later in the Philippine Islands during the Aguinaldo insurrection. Mrs. Duncan was formerly Miss Fannie S. Gee of Albion, and first met her husband at the Wise Memorial hospital in Omaha. There she nursed him through a dangerous attack of inflammation of the lungs, and seven months later they were married at Albion, leaving immediately after the wedding breakfast for Manila, where they are now located. They left numerous friends behind in Omaha and Albion who will be glad to know that at last reports both mother and son were doing well."
- 29 Jun 1911 She lives in Manila, P.I.
- 4 Sep 1919 Ten years ago they were married in the Episcopal Church.

The marriage license and certificate of Charles Duncan and Miss Fanny Gee show their marriage on 30 Jul 1909 at Albion, Boone, Nebraska. He was 37 and she was 21. He was born in England and his parents are Charles Duncan and Anne Craggs Sylvester [Ann Craggs Silvester]. Fanny was born in Nebraska and her parents are George W. Gee, Sr., and Adeline Lavinia Carter. The groom's residence was Omaha, Nebraska, and the bride's residence was Albion, Nebraska. Witnesses were Agnes Gee, Sarah Gee, George W. Gee, Sr., and Lottie Bucher [Beacher]. They were married by Arthur E. Cash, pastor (no denomination given). The marriage license was issued by the County Judge on 21 Jun 1909.

The wedding announcement of Charles Duncan and Fannie Selina Gee shows they married on Friday, 30 Jul 1909 in Albion, Nebraska. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gee. The bridal couple will be at home in Manila, P.I., after 15 Sep.

No. 95668

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

To be given to the person Naturalized.

Petition, Volume 2, page 11; Sub. Volume 4714, page 18

Description of holder: Age, 38 years; height, 5 feet, 8 inches; color, white; complexion, dark; color of eyes, brown; color of hair, gray; visible distinguishing marks, none

Name, age and place of residence of wife, unmarried

Names, ages and places of residence of minor children, none

ORIGINAL

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

SS: Charles Duncan
(Signature of holder.)

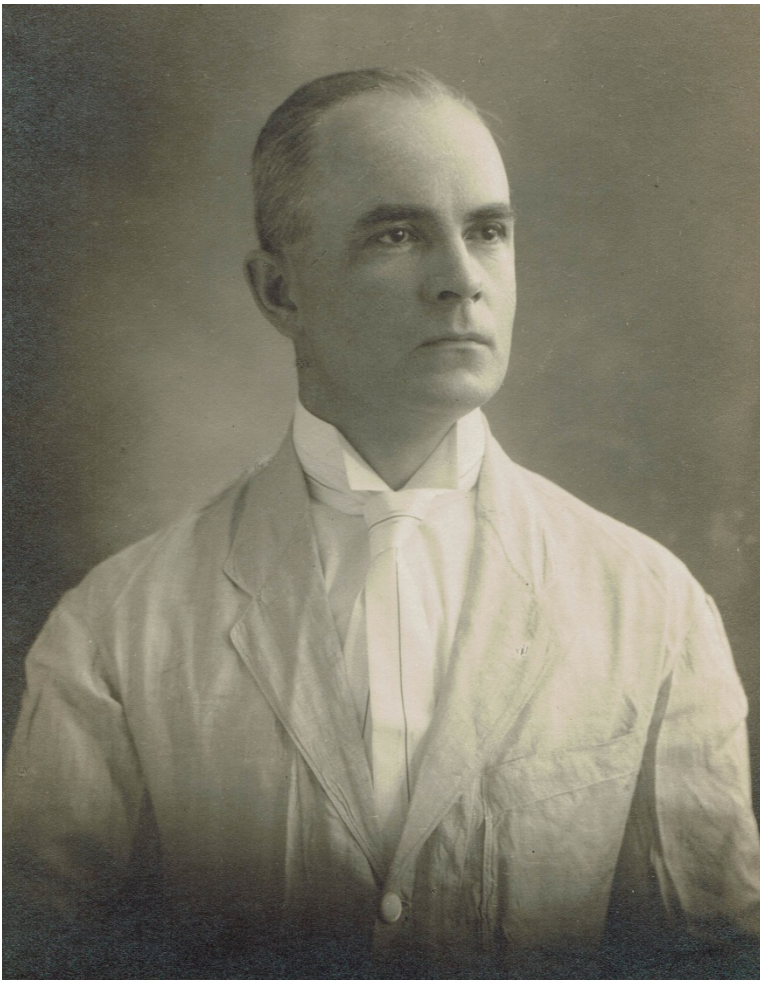
Be it remembered, that at a regular term of the District court of Douglas county, Nebraska, held at Omaha on the 8th day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and nine, CHARLES DUNCAN, who previous to his naturalization was a Subject of Great Britain, at present residing at number 2243 Howard Street, City of Omaha, State of Nebraska, having applied to be admitted a citizen of the United States of America pursuant to law, and the court having found that the petitioner had resided continuously within the United States for at least five years and in this State for one year immediately preceding the date of the hearing of his petition, and that said petitioner intends to reside permanently in the United States, had in all respects complied with the law in relation thereto, and that he was entitled to be so admitted, it was thereupon ordered by the said court that he be admitted as a citizen of the United States of America.

In testimony whereof the seal of said court is hereunto affixed on the 8th day of May in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and nine and of our Independence the one hundred and thirty third.

BY [Signature] DISTRICT COURT
(Official character of attester.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

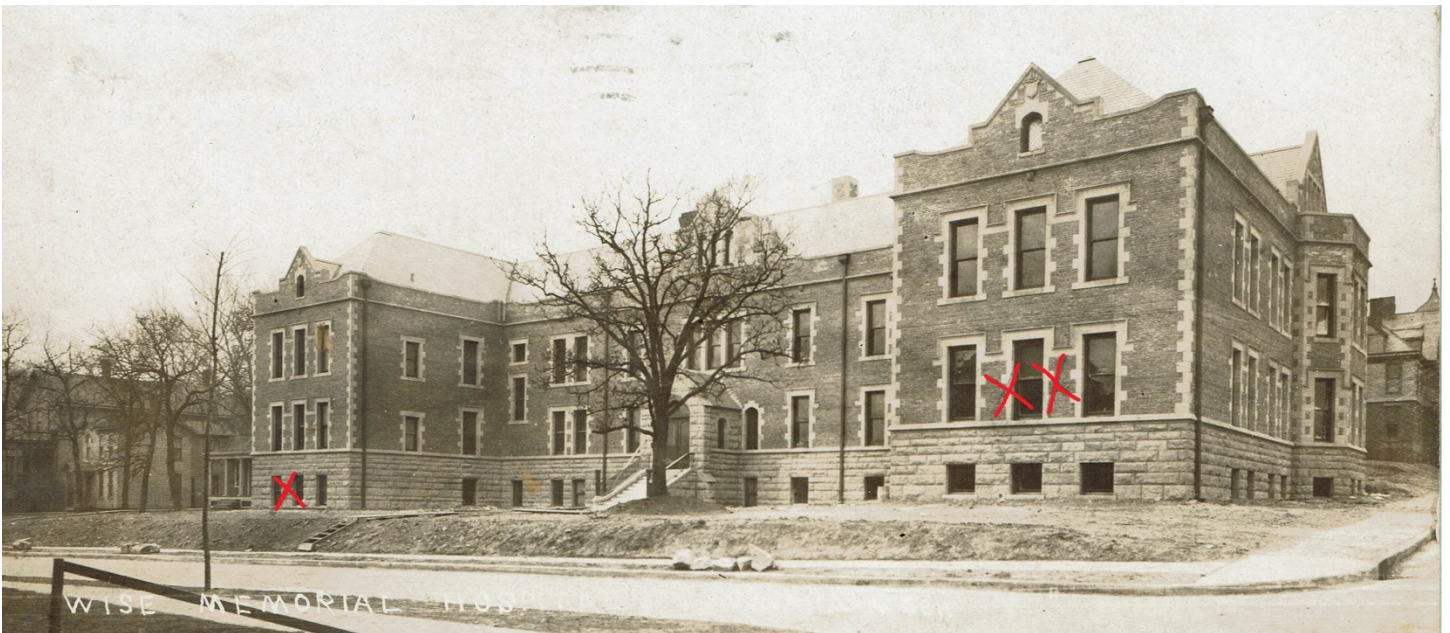
Charles Duncan's Naturalization Certificate dated 8 May 1909 shows he was age 38, which would indicate his birth year was 1870. However, he was born on 4 Jun 1872.
His marriage license two months later shows he was age 37, which was correct.



Charles Duncan at Manila, Philippine Islands.



Frances Selina Gee, 29 Jul 1909



Wise Memorial Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska, postcard sent in Mar 1908 from Fanny Gee to Mr. George Gee, Sr. "My own darlings, This is the picture of the pen I am cooped in. The place marked xx is where I spend most of the day and x is the place where I spend part of the night. Love from both of us Fanny & Marg."

Charles Duncan was treated here for a dangerous attack of inflammation of the lungs and was cared for by Frances Gee. [Wise Memorial had a Nurse Training School in years 1901-19.]

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA }
Boone County

Office of the
COUNTY JUDGE

Marriage License

License is hereby granted to any person authorized to solemnize marriages according to the laws of ^{the} ~~said~~ State to join in marriage ~~within said County~~
Mr. Charles Duncan and Miss Fanny Gee.

of the County aforesaid, whose ages, residence, etc., are as follows:

NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
Charles Duncan Groom	37	White	England	Oraha, Webr.	Charles Duncan	Anne Craggs Sylvester
Fanny Gee <small>Her husband relations, in what degree?</small> Bride	21	"	Nebraska	Albion "	George W. Gee, Sr.	Adelina Lavina Carter

And the person joining them in marriage is required to make due return of the annexed certificate to the County Judge of said County, within ninety days, of the names of the parties, time and place of marriage, and by whom solemnized.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, ^{at} my office in Albion, in said County, this 21st day of June A. D. 1909 Charles Riley COUNTY JUDGE

Certificate of Marriage

To the County Judge of Boone County, Nebraska:

This Certifies, That on the 30th day of July A. D. 1909 at Albion in said county, according to law and by authority, I duly JOINED IN MARRIAGE Mr. Charles Duncan and Miss Fanny Gee and there were present as witnesses, M. Lottie Bucher, Agnes Gee, and Sarah Gee, George

W. Gee, Sr. and H. of Given under my hand the 21st day of July 1909.

Arthur T. Cash, Pastor

Charles Duncan gave his correct age of 37 when he married Frances Gee in 1909, having been born in 1872. His military records and naturalization certificate incorrectly show his birth year as 1870.

MARRIAGE RECORD.

48790 - State Journal Company, Blank Book Makers, Stationers and Printers, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr.

Charles Duncan

-AND-

Miss Fanny Gerd

Before the County Judge of Boone County, Nebraska.

No. 2205

Albion, Mo. Jan. 21, 1901

APPLICANT'S AFFIDAVIT.

The State of Nebraska, } ss.

COUNTY OF BOONE,

I, Charles Duncan

solemnly swear that my name in full is

Charles Duncan, Nebr.

is 37; that my age is 37

is Fanny Gerd; that her age is 21

to our marriage that I know of.

an applicant for a marriage license, do
; that my place of residence
years; that the name of my intended wife
years; and that there is no legal impediment

I furthermore do solemnly swear that the following schedule, containing the names of the aforesaid parties, their age, color, place of birth, residence and parents names, is correct in every particular to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, to-wit:

NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
Charles Duncan	37	White	England	Omaha, Nebr.	Charles Duncan	Anne Craggs Henderson
Fanny Gerd	21	White	Nebraska	Liberal, "	George H. Gerd	Adeline Gerd

Subscribed and sworn to before me

Jan 21 1901

Chas. Duncan

Applicant.

Charles Gerd

County Judge

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gee

announce the marriage of

their daughter

Fannie Selina

to

Mr. Charles Duncan;

Friday, July the thirtieth, nineteen

hundred and nine;

Albion, Nebraska;

At Home

after September fifteenth;

Manila, P. I.

Charles and Frances' marriage announcement, 1909.

This photo of Charles Duncan and Frances Selina Duncan, nee Gee, taken on their wedding day was on a postcard sent about two weeks later to Frances' sister, Miss Agnes Gee, Albion, Nebraska, postmarked 11 Aug 1909.



Charles Duncan and Frances Selina Duncan



**Charles and Frances Duncan wedding photo
30 Jul 1909, Albion, Nebraska**

Standing to the left of pillar is Frances' mother, Adaline Gee, nee Carter. The woman and children seated to the left of pillar are unknown.

Group to the right of the pillar, L to R:

Front row: Frances and Charles Duncan, Lottie Beacher

2nd row: Susie Gee, Agnes Gee, Marguerite Beacher, Anna Ames, Sadie Johnson

3rd row: George William Gee (Frances' father), George Wm. Gee, Jr., (brother) and his wife Ella Gee, Jim Gee

Charles Duncan's 29 Nov 1909 letter from Manila, Philippines [P.I.], to his father John Henry Henderson thanks him for the letter and the wedding present which had not yet arrived, describes their house with its grass roof, and details his streetcar commute to the office near the Bridge of Spain. He had two jobs to make ends meet: the army in the morning and proofreading in the afternoon. He said Rosa and her husband had sent a very beautiful gold-mounted amber cigar holder in a silver case. Fanny's relatives and friends gave them numerous useful things including silverware, table linens, etc.

Fanny Duncan's 30 Nov 1909 letter from Manila, P.I., to "My dear new father" [John Henry Henderson]. She states how happy she is to be a part of this new big family and has already received letters from him, Rosa, and Clara. She sends her love to Polly and the children. She wrote about their honeymoon, the ship ride across the ocean, and all the new experiences contrasted with living in central USA. [John Henry Henderson saved the above two letters, and Silvia Henderson mailed them to Charles Duncan, Jr., in 1968.]

Charles Duncan's will dated 30 Mar 1910 in Manila, P.I., shows he would leave everything to his wife Fanny Selina Duncan. He named her as executrix without a bond. He was of Douglas County, Nebraska, and now living in Manila.

RESIDENCES

Charles Duncan's 19 Nov 1909 letter sent to a family member in England and saved by his sister Silvia Henderson showed his address at Headquarters, Philippines Div., Manila, P.I.

The 1910 *Omaha City Directory* [Nebraska] shows Charles Duncan living at 2243 Howard. He is a clerk--- Adjutant Gen., U.S.A.

The 1910 census of Headquarters, Philippines Division, Manila, Philippine Islands, taken 1 Jul 1910 shows Charles Duncan, employee, 40, clerk in a military office, born in England, living with his wife Frances S., 22, born in Nebraska, and his son Charles, two months, born in the Philippine Islands. Charles had immigrated to the U.S. in 1893 and was an alien. Charles and Frances' parents were all born in England. [Note Frances' mother was born in New York and Charles was a naturalized citizen.]

In Nov 1978, my father Charles Duncan, Jr., told me the food and climate in the Philippines didn't agree with his mother Fanny, sister Agnes, and him. The three of them left the Philippine Islands in about Oct 1912 when he was 2-1/2 years old. After arriving in the U.S., they went by train to Wisconsin where they stayed for a few weeks with Fanny's sister and brother-in-law, Peter and Mary Martin, who lived on a dairy farm. One of my father's earliest memories is seeing his mother's hairbrush that he used to get spanked with once in a while on a windowsill in an upstairs bedroom when they were leaving the Martins' house. He didn't say anything about it until it turned up missing. They went to San Francisco by train in about 1913 where his father Charles Duncan was working. They all moved to Omaha, Nebraska, in the fall of 1921. They lived at several addresses in Omaha, one very near Technical High School when it was being built and another on the north end of town near Fort Omaha.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s early biography says Army transports were coal burners and took voyages across the Pacific at about five knots an hour. During his father's trip from the Philippine Islands to San Francisco, the ship encountered a typhoon and the sailors had to be lashed to the masts and posts on deck during the storm. [In our 3 Feb 2005 conversation, my father said his father's trip from Manila, Philippine Islands, to San Francisco took 30 days, and they encountered a typhoon requiring the crew to be lashed to the masts.]

An undated newspaper clipping shows "TRANSPORT IN HURRICANE Crew of U.S.S. Logan Lashed to Masts During Gale. San Francisco, Sept. 15--The United States army transport Logan, which arrived yesterday from Manila reports encountering a hurricane Sept 2, three days before arriving at Honolulu. During the storm, officers and members of the crew were lashed to their posts. The passengers all of whom were in their staterooms and the saloons with life-preservers on, expected orders at any minute to take to the small boats. The storm lasted seven hours."

In the *Dad Share Your Life with Me* book, Charles Duncan, Jr., wrote in 1996 and 1997 that his parents and he lived at:

676 7th Ave., San Francisco, in the upstairs of a 2-family flat
81 7th Ave., San Francisco, very near the Presidio where his father worked while in the Army
120 7th Ave., San Francisco, in the upstairs of a 2-family flat
Several addresses in Omaha, Nebraska
601 Washington Place, Long Beach, California
745 Daisy Ave., Long Beach.

The 1920 census of San Francisco, California, shows Charles Duncan, head, 48, married, Army field clerk for the U.S. Army, born in England as were his parents, living at 120 7th Ave. with his wife Fannie S., 31, born in Nebraska, and his children, born in Manila, P.I.:

Charles, Jr., 9

Agnes M., 8.

They rented their house. Fannie's father was born in England and her mother was born in New York. Charles immigrated in 1892 and was naturalized in 1908 [1909].

A 27 Mar 1921 photo shows Agnes and Charles Duncan, Jr., on Easter Sunday in San Francisco.

In my 3 Feb 2005 conversation with my father Charles, he said they lived in San Francisco in the second story of a two-story house where the owner lived in the nicer one downstairs. In one house in San Francisco where they lived, the owner had a daughter a few years older than Charles and she bullied him and Agnes which they didn't like. He remembers playing in the back yard of these rented San Francisco houses.

In Nov 1978, my father told me that when they lived in San Francisco, his father grew dahlias, took him for walks and played chess with him. They engaged in no sports together. They never had friends over, but would occasionally have his wife's relatives over to visit.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography said that when they lived in a somewhat rural area of the south end of San Francisco, his father raised dahlias and had great results with the soil there. Some of his blossoms were more than a foot across.

My father told me on 27 Jan 1996 that he and his father travelled by train when they moved from San Francisco to Omaha in 1920 [Fall 1921]. They stayed in a boarding house in Omaha. It was common to stay in a boarding house instead of a hotel as it was cheaper. Then his mother and sister Agnes came later.

On 3 Feb 2005, my father told me he and his father went to Omaha before the rest of the family and rented a small apartment before the others arrived. They later rented a two-bedroom house fairly close to his father's work.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography said his father was sometimes stationed at Fort Crook south of Omaha (a long street-car ride from home), Fort Omaha north of town, and the downtown Army Building. During much of this time he was involved with the ROTC program at the colleges in the Midwest.

The 1922 Original Election Register for the City of Omaha shows Charles Duncan living at 819 No. 30th Street. He is a naturalized citizen and his second papers are dated 8 May 1909. He had lived in the precinct, county and state for 10 months. He and Fannie are qualified voters and their party affiliation is Democrat, but in 1924 their party affiliation was Republican. He is 50, has grey, balding hair, brown eyes, is 5'8", weighs 190 pounds and wears glasses. He is married and an Army Field-Clerk for the U.S. Government. He moved to "The Angelus" at 25th & Douglas. The 1924 Register shows he had lived in the precinct for one year and in the county and state for 3 years. He is now 52 and weighs 205 pounds. The 1922 Register shows the same address for Fannie Duncan who is 34, has brown hair, grey eyes, is 5'4" and weighs 135 pounds. In 1924 she weighs 140 pounds.

The 1923 *Omaha City Directory* shows Charles Duncan living at 819 No. 30th. He is a clerk for the U.S.A.

29 Nov 1909 letter from Charles Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 1

Headquarters Philippine Division,

Manila, P. I., November 29, 1909.

My dear Father:

Thanks very much for your letter of Oct. 20th which was handed to me at the office first thing this morning: it was postmarked "Gravesend, 5 p.m., Oct. 21, 09" and "Manila, P. I., 2 p.m., Nov. 27, 09": but for the fact that yesterday was Sunday it would have been delivered one day earlier. It was indeed a treat to hear from the old home again after quite an interval, and when I reached home this evening and turned your letter over to Fanny she was as delighted as I was and says she will start to write you tomorrow. Before proceeding any further I must thank you for the wedding present which, of course, has not yet arrived. However a transport will arrive in the Bay from San Francisco December 1st and if good connections were made at Liverpool or Larnestown it may perhaps ~~be~~ come by that vessel. In any event I will send you word immediately it does come. Rosa and her husband sent a very beautiful gold-mounted amber cigar holder inclosed in a silver case, while Fanny's relatives and friends gave her numerous useful things, including silverware, table linen, etc. If you have read my letter to Rosa written shortly after our arrival in Manila you

29 Nov 1909 letter from Charles Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 2

- 2 -

will have heard about our marriage and long honeymoon trip, so I will not repeat that story. For one whole week we were house hunting but at the end of that time we found the house we are now in and feel perfectly satisfied with it. It is a one-storied structure, built somewhat in bungalow style of native hard woods, and has a nipa (grass) roof. The rooms are large and lofty and well ventilated; the house stands in its own grounds, as is the custom in tropical countries, and with electric light and water added costs us about 60 pesos (£6) a month. We are $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away from Fort Santiago where my office is located, but there is now a very fine system of electric street car service in operation here so that no inconvenience results in my being so far from the place of business.

Sunday, Dec. 5, 1909.

The money order arrived safely on the transport, so you see the distance from Gravesend to Manila in point of time is about the same whether you travel East through the Suez or west via America. Records in fast mail trips from the Islands to Europe have recently been broken by taking advantage of sailings from Hong Kong and Shanghai for Vladivostok and those connecting with the Siberian railroad, with the result that the time has in some instances been reduced

A Postal money order sent from Hong Kong to Manila must pass through the New York office, so the same rule applies to drafts sent from Europe to this country.

29 Nov 1909 letter from Charles Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 3

-3-

to three weeks. To send your mail by this route, however, you must watch steamship sailing schedules closely and then have friends in the China coast cities above mentioned to remail your letters for you as the postal authorities will not attempt as yet to send mail through these channels.

I tried to continue this letter on two or three occasions last week but finally had to put it off to Sunday. Our hours at military headquarters are from 7.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day except Sunday, and my salary is now \$1400 per annum — the same as it was for the last year of my former tour in the Philippines. On leaving the office I walk to a restaurant in the Walled City and there partake of lunch; then walk on out of the Walled City, passing through two of the historic old gateways, and finally reach the Bridge of Spain, which for the last three hundred years has spanned the dangerous Pasig River. Crossing this bridge one arrives at the Escolta, the busiest street in town, and here I turn to the right for a short distance and finally stop and enter the establishment of "Viuda de E. Bota, printers," where I am employed afternoons as proof-reader at \$30 per month; the work occupies from 2½ to 4 hours a day, according to the amount of proof-

The Manchurian situation commences to look very serious again.

29 Nov 1909 letter from Charles Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 4

Was glad to hear that Kint won the championship this year. Received a letter from Clara 3 mos. ago and answered it immediately.

-4-

reading to be done. Then, boarding a passing street car,
 I am whisked off home, where a bath and a clean
 suit of white duck clothes are awaiting me. The
 extra money made by this afternoon work comes in
 very handy — in fact I hardly know how we would
 manage to get along without it — but it rather
 does me up so far as the evenings are concerned, so
 in order to arise without any trouble in the mornings
 and be at my best for the next day's work, we
 generally make it a point to retire early — between 9
 and 10 — and have in consequence found it necessary to
 curtail participation in many of the social affairs
 that are so numerous here.

For the last week we have had a boarder in the
 house, a Mrs. Cook, the wife of the skipper of the mine
 planter that operates around the Island of Corregidor, but
 she has now left, so we have the house to ourselves
 again. Fanny and Mrs. Frederick (a friend of ours) attended
 the inauguration of Governor General Forbes a couple of weeks
 ago, and enjoyed it very much; a few days before they went
 over the "South Dakota," one of the eight ships of Admiral
 Scherer's cruiser squadron which recently arrived from the
 States. We have a lot of Blue Funnel freighters coming here
 for hemp, but Alfred Holt's passenger vessels don't stop at Manila.
 Now good-bye. With love to everybody at home / your affectionate / Chas.

30 Nov 1909 letter from Frances Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 1

Manila, P.I.

Nov. 30, 1909.

My dear new father:

Charles started to answer your most welcome letter of October 20th, which was received by us on Nov. 28, and I said I was going to write to you also. I think I was about as pleased to get your letter as Charles for I was real anxious to hear from some of my new relations. to say nothing of wanting to see you. Probably you would not care for me after you would see me but I would try awfully hard to make you like me. and I know I should like you, from what Charles has told me and also from your picture. We have had a letter from Rosa and also from Clara since we arrived in Manila so that makes three so far. I wish to thank you, with Charles, for your congratulations and good wishes and for the wedding present, which as yet we have^{not} received but will be very acceptable when it does come. Do you not think we had a grande, long honey-moon? There are not a great many who can boast of such an one; and grande it was in every sense of the word for we had ideal weather during the whole trip and for many days at a time the

30 Nov 1909 letter from Frances Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 2

sea was as smooth as glass. Another ideal part of it was that I was not sea-sick at all and that was my first experience on the water, in fact my first view of the ocean or any other very large body of water. The only boat I had ever been in was a small row boat. So you see every thing was new & very interesting for me. Our trip and also our stay here will be one of the greatest events of my life as my home has always been in one of the central states and every thing is just about the same there no matter where you go.

We have not been out a great deal since we came here but whenever we go any place at all there are so many new and interesting things to be seen. Thanksgiving day we went to the oldest cathedral in Manila where they had High Mass. Altho we could not take part in the services it was worth a great deal to see the inside of the church and especially during a service like that. Only a few more days now until Xmas and I can't realize it for I think it had ought

30 Nov 1909 letter from Frances Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 3

To get real cold and snow before we can think of any thing like that. Instead we will have to have the house thrown wide open in order to keep cool.

Dec. 1. - I am going to try and finish my letter now. I have just been to the dentist's having some teeth filled and thought that I had only one cavity but instead of that the dentist found five which were all worse than the one I had found. That does not sound very good when you know they charge horribly high prices for all of their work: but I think it is better to have them fixed at once than to wait until they begin to ache. We have really been having a few days of quite cool weather or rather a few nights. It has been so cool that a blanket is really necessary for you to sleep comfortably but about noon it becomes quite warm. I suppose Charles has told you that we received the Postal Order Saturday, Dec. 4. I saw something quite new and interesting on November 24. A lady friend and myself went down to the Wallled City to a large building called "Marble Hall"

30 Nov 1909 letter from Frances Duncan to John Henry Henderson, p. 4

saw the new Governor of the Islands inaugurated. It was a very novel sight, when the people began to leave the building, to see all of the consuls from the different countries dressed in their native costumes. We have a French vice-consul for our next door neighbor. but you would never know it ~~the~~ unless someone told you for he is very common looking and very quiet.

Give my love to all my new brothers & sisters and keep lots for yourself and dear aunt Polly. Again thanking you for your good wishes and gift & hoping to hear from you again soon I beg to remain your affectionate daughter, Fanny.



**Charles and
Frances Duncan
in the Philippines
with baby
Charles, Jr.,
in 1910**



The Duncans in the Philippine Islands in 1910



Frances Duncan holding her son Charles Duncan, Jr., Dec 1910



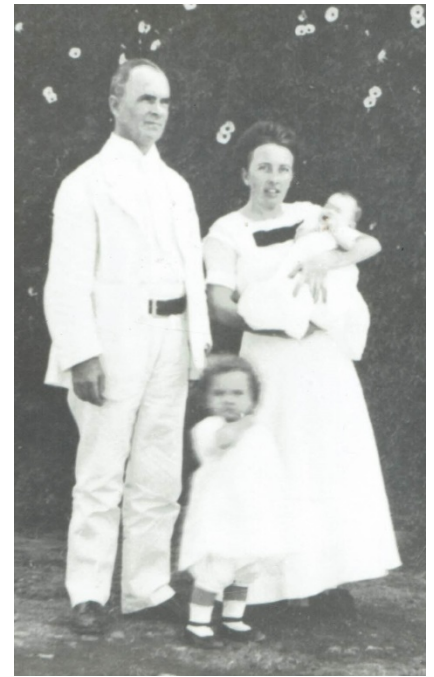
**Charles Duncan, Jr., and
Mrs. Fredericks, family friend**



**L to R: Frances Duncan, Mrs. Fredericks holding
Charles Duncan, Jr., two unknown people**



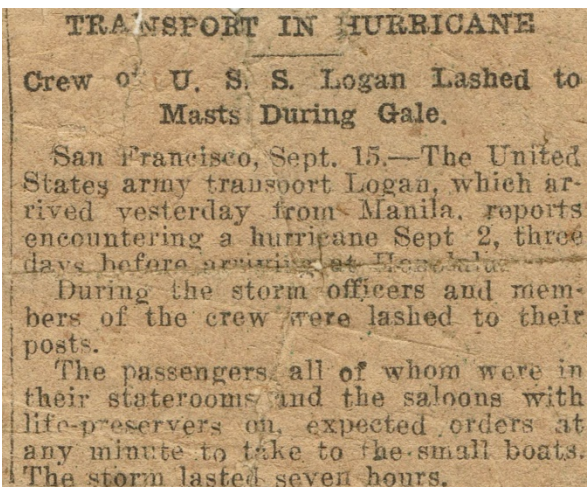
L to R:
Theodosia and Jim McMannes, Frances with baby Agnes, Charles Duncan with toddler Charles, Jr., Ida and Joe Felger, in the Philippines about 1912



Charles and Frances Duncan with Agnes and Charles, Jr., in the Philippines about 1912



Frances Duncan with baby Agnes and toddler Charles, Jr.



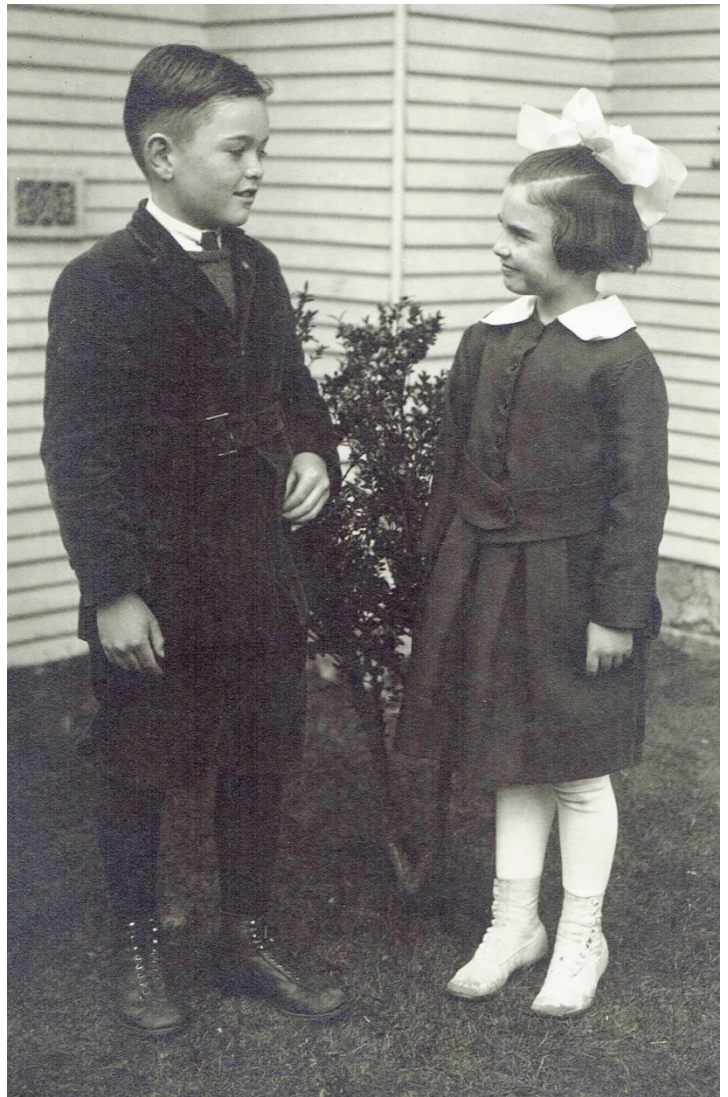
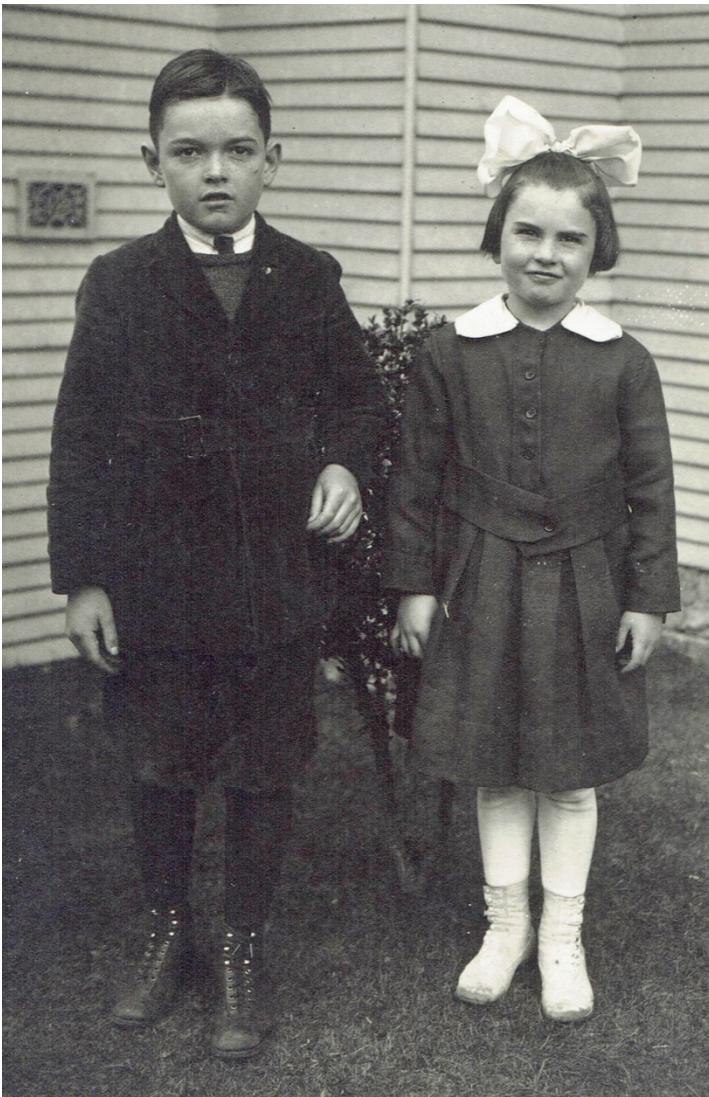
Newspaper clipping about the typhoon that Charles Duncan's army transport encountered on its way from Manila to Honolulu. The typhoon required the crew to be lashed to the masts and lasted seven hours.

Frances and Charles Duncan with their children, Agnes and Charles, Jr., in San Francisco, California



Charles, Jr.,
and his sister,
Agnes Duncan





Charles, Jr., and Agnes Duncan all dressed up in San Francisco



Charles Duncan at his army office in San Francisco, 1914-1918



Charles and Frances Duncan's family home (white gate), 61 7th Ave., San Francisco. This house was near the Presidio where Charles worked for the army. Photo taken Apr 1983.

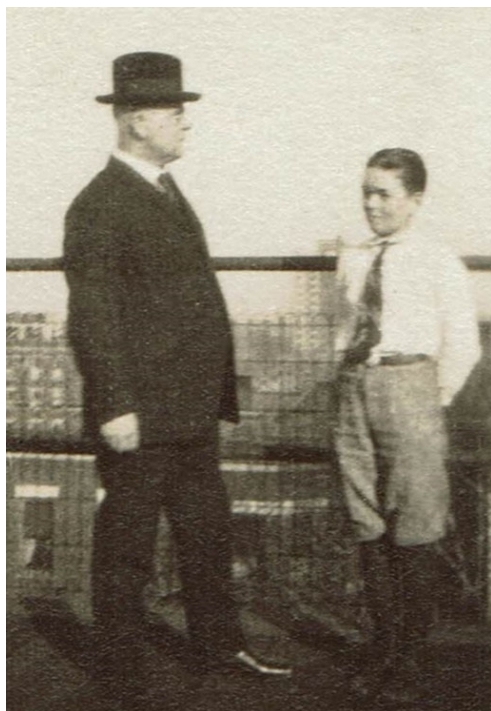


Uncle Bob Johnson (standing), Agnes and Charles Duncan, Jr., in San Francisco about 1918



120 7th Ave., San Francisco, where the Charles and Frances Duncan family lived upstairs in a two-family flat in 1920. Photo taken Apr 1983.

Charles and Frances Duncan family, rooftop in Omaha, Nebraska, early 1920s



**Charles and his son,
Charles Duncan, Jr.**



Charles Duncan, Jr., and Agnes



**“The Flying Dutchman” Charles
snapped the photo when his
mother, Frances, jumped.**





**Agnes and Charles Duncan, Jr.,
on Easter Sunday, San Francisco,
27 Mar 1921**



**Agnes and Charles Duncan, Jr.,
photo by Lake Studio, Omaha, Nebraska, early 1920s**



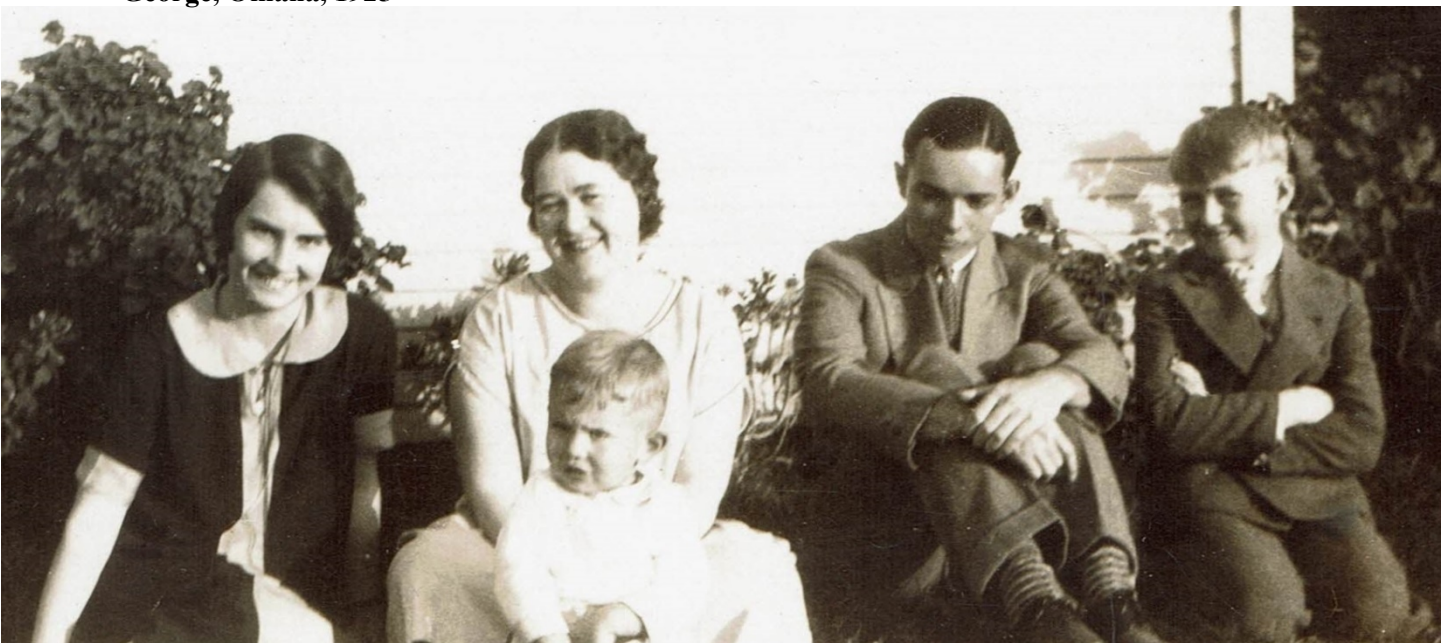
**Charles Duncan
shoveling snow in
Omaha, Nebraska,
circa 1920s**



**Charles Duncan holding his son,
George, Omaha, 1925**



Frances Duncan in Omaha, Nebraska

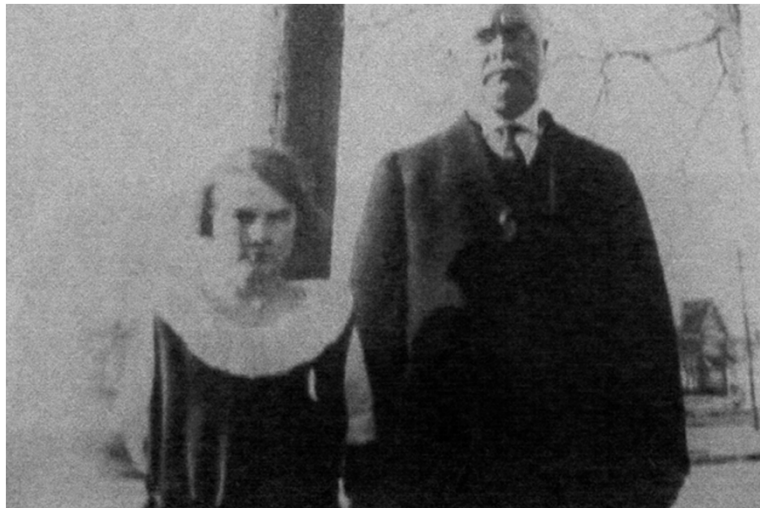


**L to R: Agnes Duncan, Bessie Martin (Charles and Frances' niece) holding George Duncan,
Charles Duncan, Jr., unknown person, circa 1927**



The Charles and Frances Duncan family home at 3510 Seward St., Omaha, Nebraska. Photos taken 1999.

**Agnes and her father
Charles Duncan**



Charles, George, and Agnes Duncan circa 1930



**L to R: Frances, George, and Charles Duncan, probably
Aug 1938 at Boy Scout Camp in the mountains,
120 miles east of Long Beach**

Charles Duncan, Jr., said they lived at the south-east corner of Cuming & 33rd St. across from Technical High School in Omaha when it was being built in 1924.

Photos of Charles Duncan, Jr., with a rooster when he looks to be about 13 or 14 years old (about 1923-1924) were taken at their home at 3512 N. 24th St., Omaha.

My unsourced notes show Charles Duncan lived at The Angelus hotel at 25th Ave. & Douglas St., Omaha, Nebraska, in Oct 1924.

The 1925 *Omaha City Directory* shows Charles Duncan living with about 50 other people at "The Angelus", 204 S. 25th St.

The 1926 *Omaha City Directory* shows Charles Duncan living at 3510 Seward. He is a field clerk. [My unsourced notes show Frances Duncan lived at 3510 Seward after 1926.]

In Nov 1978 my father told me that in the fall of 1927, they moved to Long Beach, California. In 1930 or 1931 [mid-1930s], his parents and brother George moved to San Francisco for a year or two, and his father Charles learned to drive there. They moved back to Long Beach and Charles and Frances lived there the rest of their lives. They lived at a few other addresses in Long Beach before moving on [1 Feb] 1938 to 266 Cerritos Ave., their final home.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography says, "In the mid 30s my parents and brother George moved up to San Francisco to live but didn't stay very long. A year or so if I remember right. This was when I was living in Los Angeles. They [presumably Frances] drove up in an Oakland sedan which they got second hand and while they were there, my father learned to drive, which was a hard town to learn in what with all the hills. I taught Mother to drive and she learned quickly, being kind of mechanically inclined. I think I got that from her."

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s biography says he and his parents first lived at Cross Court or something like that on Rose St. or a street named for a flower and just south of State St., Long Beach, when they moved from Omaha in 1927. [State St. was changed in the 1940s to Pacific Coast Highway.]

The 1930 census of Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, shows Charles Duncan, head, 57, married, born in England, as were his parents, living at 601 Washington Place with his wife Fanny S., 42, born in Nebraska, and his children:

Charles, Jr., 19, mail clerk at a bank, born in Manila, P.I.

Agnes M., 18, stenographer for the Board of Education, born in Manila, P.I.

George G., 4, born in Nebraska.

They rented their house for \$40 a month and owned a radio. Charles was 37 at his first marriage and Fanny was 21 at her first marriage. Fanny's father was born in England and her mother was born in New York. Charles immigrated in 1893. He had no occupation and was a veteran of Spanish, Philippine and World Wars.

Charles Duncan's 27 Mar 1933 letter to his sister Clara in Gravesend shows his address as 745 Daisy Ave., Long Beach, California. He described the severe earthquake on March 10 that damaged many homes and businesses in Long Beach. He, his wife and son George were visiting in the home of some friends when the earthquake hit at 5:55 p.m. The house was rocked violently for 17-18 seconds. They felt several after-shocks for days afterwards. Fortunately none of his family was injured, but they did suffer the loss of gas for 13 days and had to cook over a messy gasoline stove which son Charles got from a friend in Los Angeles. He also enclosed newspaper clippings describing the deaths of 121 people and the extensive destruction.

An envelope postmarked 15 Jul 1936 shows Mr. & Mrs. Charles Duncan lived at 3151 California St., San Francisco, and the return address was from their daughter, Agnes M. Duncan, 238 E. 4th St., Long Beach, California. The envelope had a printed return address of Farmers & Merchants Bank, Long Beach, California.

A 1937 Christmas card postmarked Gravesend, Kent, to Mr. & Mrs. C. Duncan from Clare Henderson shows the Duncans lived at 3404 E. 3rd Street, Long Beach, California.

Charles Duncan's letters dated 16 Aug 1938, 22 Nov 1938, 28 Nov 1939 and 13 Jul 1944 which were sent to his family in England and saved by his sister Silvia Henderson show his address at 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, California.

Charles Duncan's 16 Aug 1938 letter to his sister Clara shows his address as 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, California. He said they moved on Feb 1 to this address. It is about a mile and a half nearer the center of town which saves money on streetcar fare. They pay \$25 a month for a furnished flat and \$3 a month for a good, detached garage. They had been paying \$32 for a flat and garage in their former place, so they are saving \$4 a month. They also have an electric refrigerator which saves the expense of buying ice for the ice box which saves about \$2.50 a month. Hot water is free which saves them at least a dollar a month. A paid gardener keeps the grounds surrounding the house, so he doesn't have to bother with any gardening. The landlady is a very splendid woman and lives next-door. Fanny's sister Sadie now lives with her. The landlady has a lodge at Big Bear Lake which he and Fanny plan to stay overnight at on Aug 27. It is 125 miles from Long Beach and is quite a mountain and lake resort.

Snapshots dated Sep 1938 show Charles and Frances at a cottage at Big Bear [California] probably taken 27 or 28 Aug.

Charles Duncan's 22 Nov 1938 letter to his sister Clara describes how electric and gas rates are charged to residential customers compared to how they are charged in England (amount consumed vs. assessed value of the property). About a month ago his son-in-law Don and daughter Agnes drove him to Griffith Park in Los Angeles one Sunday to see a cricket match played by two elevens of Britishers. Quite a number of players are in the film industry in Hollywood. The grand old actor Henry Stephenson was primarily responsible for the existence of the club from which the two teams were drawn. They had a much better field and pitch than he had expected and the game was very enjoyable. Agnes liked the game, but Don did not. There were very, very few spectators. A couple of months ago he and Fan visited the local inner harbor to see the small Chinese junk which had just arrived from Asia bringing four people. It took them between three and four months and came through without any mishap. Long Beach is quite a musical town with innumerable musical societies, clubs, orchestras, fine church choirs, and its renowned municipal band under the leadership of Herbert F. Clarke. The band plays an average of ten concerts a week and all are free because the band is maintained by city funds and plays in the city auditorium. He attends about four concerts a week in the afternoon and finds them enjoyable.

Charles Duncan's 28 Nov 1939 letter to his sister Clara says he does not have a piano accompanist for his violin playing, but the flat came with an old upright piano. He noted that the Lyceum theatre in London was being pulled down. He remembers seeing Irving and Ellen Terry there two or three times; also her son Gordon Craig and Sir George Bancroft who played opposite Irving in *The Dead Heart*, a story of the French Revolution. He also saw William Terriss there once, or thinks he did.

The 1940 census of Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, shows Charles Duncan, head, married, 67, born in England, no occupation, living at 266 Cerritos Ave. with his wife Fanny S., 52, born in Nebraska, and his son George G., 14, born in Nebraska, and a roomer Sadie A. Johnson, widow, 54, no occupation, born in Nebraska. All had lived in Long Beach five years ago. [In Nov 1978, Charles, Jr., told me Aunt Sadie, his mother's sister, lived over their apartment at 266 Cerritos Ave. at one time.]

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says he remembers Meopham Green pretty well and the cricket matches that members of the St. Andrews Cricket Club played there against the Meopham team. He captained the St. Andrews team at the last match they played before he left England. At the end of a match it was the custom for the teams to have dinner together at the village inn and then they would return to Gravesend by wagonette. He said he was glad to know Alice Brown is still around. When he was a boy of about 12 or 13, she gave him a few lessons in banjo playing, but shortly after that he got switched to violin playing and took lessons with some old German who used to furnish the music, a

3-piece aggregation, on the Pilots' pier during the summer. Charles didn't get much instruction from the old fellow, for it seemed that as soon as he would start his lesson, members of the teacher's family and some of his in-laws would come into the room and chamber music quickly became the order of the day. But that was splendid practice for him, too. Charles says he and all the family are fine.

FAMILY NOTES

Charles Duncan, Jr., or Ruth Duncan wrote in spring 1978 that Charles' father, Charles Duncan, was born on 4 Jun 1870 in Gravesend. He died on 29 Jan 1947. His father is Charles Duncan and his mother is Anne Craggs Sylvester. She later married a Mr. Henderson who later remarried. [Charles Duncan was born on 4 Jun 1872 and his father is John Henry Henderson. His mother is Ann Craggs Sylvester.] Charles married Frances Salina Gee and their children are:

Charles Duncan, Jr., born 22 Apr 1910 in Manila, Philippine Islands, who married Ruth Lorraine Johnson.

Agnes Marguerite Duncan, born 22 Oct 1911 in Manila, Philippine Islands, who married a Mr. Lohr with whom she had five children. He remarried after her death.

George Gee Duncan, born 26 Sep 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska, who married Jean Severn.

Charles Duncan, Jr., told me in spring 1978 that his father Charles Duncan worked at the Trinity House in London and then was an apprentice for a grocer. Then he and Harry Rackstraw went into the grocery business. Vernon's grocery store [at 28 The Terrace, Gravesend] burned down and he decided to emigrate to the U.S. about 1890 or 1892. He played the piano for vaudeville before joining the Army in New York. However, he played mostly classical music. He was stationed in upper New York state in 1895 in the Signal Corps. He served in the Spanish American War after it got started. He also served in Cuba and then in the Philippine Insurrection. He was an appendicitis patient at the Wise Memorial Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, when he met his wife Frances Gee. [Frances nursed Charles through a dangerous attack of inflammation of the lungs at that hospital, and it was Frances who had an appendectomy there.]

Jean Duncan's letter written about 1958-1963 from conversations with Sadie Johnson [Frances Gee's sister] says Charles Duncan was born on 4 Jun 1870 in Gravesend, married Frances Selina Gee on 30 Jul 1909, and died on 29 Jun 1947. His father is Charles Duncan and his mother is Anne Craggs Sylvester [Ann Craggs Sylvester]. Frances Selina Gee was born on 4 Feb 1888 in Albion, Bonanza Precinct, Boone, Nebraska. She died on 7 Apr 1957. Her parents are George William Gee, Sr., and Adeline Lavina Carter.

Silvia Henderson's Dec 1968 letter to Ruth Duncan shows this information: Charles Duncan's birth before Sep 1874 and his marriage on 30 Jul 1909 in Nebraska to Frances. Charles was living in Gravesend in 1875 and was captain of the St. Andrews Cricket Club before he emigrated to the U.S. The man he called his father was alive in late 1909. Charles and Frances had a son Charles Duncan, born 22 Apr 1910 in Manila, Philippine Islands. [By being vague about her brother Charles' birth year and calling John Henry "the man he called his father", Silvia was keeping Charles' secrets.]

In my 3 Feb 2005 conversation with my father, he said his father Charles Duncan played the piano for him and Agnes and taught them the lyrics, "When the ship is trim and ready and the jolly days are gone..." with a melody my father remembered. [The song is "They All Love Jack".] Charles' father mostly read Christian Science literature and played their hymns for recreation. Charles learned to sing from his father who was quiet and didn't like to talk about his trip to the U.S., life in England, or why he came to the U.S.

A 6 Mar 1989 letter from Charles Duncan, Jr., sent in reply to Symons & Gay, Solicitors re: John Henry Henderson's estate states that Charles Duncan was formerly Vernon Henry Henderson who had three children: Charles, Agnes M., and George Gee Duncan. Agnes married Donald Lohr. [Fortunately, I had been able to tell my father about his father's name change just two years earlier.]

MILITARY RECORDS

In the *Dad Share Your Life with Me* book, Charles wrote in 1996 and 1997 that his father was in the U.S. Army for many years and ended up as an Army Field Clerk. As there was no provision for retirement, the rank was changed to Warrant Officer so retirement was finally possible in 1927.

My father told me his father did not last very long as a pianist for a vaudeville act in New York because he did not play by ear like they wanted. He played with notes and played more classical type of music. Soon after, he joined the U.S. Army. He was in the Signal Corps and one of the exercises was practicing signaling with torches (semaphores) across a lake in New York. It was like Morse code with semaphores. When the Spanish American War broke out, he got shipped to Cuba and Puerto Rico and when that was over, he was sent to the Philippine Islands for the Philippine Insurrection. Spain had been there about 300 years and Spain then gave it up and the natives revolted. After that was put down, Charles was transferred to Omaha where he had an appendectomy [not appendectomy, treated for inflammation of the lungs] and met his wife in the hospital. He retired from the Army in 1927 and moved to Long Beach to be near Fanny's sister, Sadie [Sarah Ann Gee].

Charles Duncan's Army discharge papers show he enlisted on 18 May 1893 to serve 5 years. He was 27 years, 11 months in 18 May 1898 when he was discharged. He was 5'8", with dark complexion, brown eyes and black hair. He was unmarried, a clerk, and born in Kent, England. He was discharged in consequence of Expiration of term of service. He had excellent character. He was a Sgt. of Co. H in 9th Reg't. of Infantry. He was discharged on 17 May 1898 at Camp at Tampa, Florida. He re-enlisted on 20 Jun 1898, stamped for fast service at recruiting station at 25 & 27--3rd Ave., New York City.

His military record states he was appointed to Corporal on 2 Sep 1895 and Sergeant on 8 May 1897. He served in the Spanish-American expedition. His service was honest and faithful. His marksmanship was 3rd Class in 1896 and 1897. His physical condition was good when discharged. He was paid \$386.96 at or from Atlanta, Georgia, on 23 May 1898.

Charles Duncan's Army discharge papers show he enlisted on 16 Apr 1899 at age 28 years, 10 months. He was 5'8", with dark complexion, brown eyes and black hair. He was unmarried and his occupation was soldier and his character was excellent. He enlisted for 3 years and was discharged by reason of expiration of term of service. He is a Battalion Serg't. Major of the 19th Regiment of Infantry. This was dated 15 Apr 1902 at Cebu, Cebu, P.I. [Philippine Islands] by J. F. Huston, Maj., 19th Inf. Commanding Post.

His military records state: Continuous service at time of discharge 8 years, 9 months, 15 days.

Serving in the ninth year of continuous service since 21 Jun 1901. Corporal from 16 Apr 1899 to 25 Jan 1900---Serg't. from 25 Jan 1900 to 2 Apr 1901---Appl'd. Batt. Serg't. Major 2 Apr 1901.

Marksmanship: no record.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: Expedition to P.I. 1899; Campaign on Island of Panay, P.I.; Battle of San Blas, 20 Nov 1899; Skirmish at Janiuay [city in Iloilo province, Philippines] on 24 Nov 1899. No wounds received in service. Good physical condition when discharged. Service honest and faithful: Served in Porto Rico from 2 Aug 1898 to 13 May 1899 in P.I. from 21 Aug 1899 to 15 Apr 1902. Shows he reenlisted at Cebu, Cebu, P.I., on 16 Apr 1902 for the Non Commissioned Staff, 19th U.S. Info. Paid \$226.50, but no transportation provided or subsistence furnished.

Charles Duncan's 27 Dec 1901 letter to Commanding Officer, Co. F, 19th Inf., Dumanjug, Cebu, P.I., requested he be furnished with a certificate to be appended to his discharge dated 16 Mar 1899, setting forth dates when service in Porto Rico began and ended. He was a Batt. Sergt. Major, 19th Infantry, late of Co. F, 19th Infantry and his address is Cebu, Cebu, P.I. On 11 Jan 1902 G. W. Helms, 1st Lt. 19th Inf., Comdg. Co. F and Post of Damanjug enclosed the certificate which stated Charles had served as an enlisted man in Co. F, 19th Inf. in Porto Rico from 2 Aug 1898 until 13 May 1899.

Charles Duncan's Army discharge papers show he enlisted on 16 Apr 1902 to serve 3 years and was discharged by reason of 7th Ind. Hdqrs. Dept. of the Visayas, 24 Apr 1902. In 6th Ind. Hdqrs. Div. Phils authority granted under G.O. 141, p. 1900, Div. Phils. He was a private in Co. E of the 29th Regm't. of Infantry. Dated 24 Apr 1903 at Iloilo, Panay, P.I. Signed by Capt. of 29th Infantry.

His military records state: previous service---5 years Co. H, 9th Inf. from 18 May 1893, 9 months, 25 days; Co. F, 19th Inf. from 21 Jun 1898; 3 years Co. F & N.C.O. 19th Inf. from 16 Apr 1899. 1 year, 9 days, M.D., 19th Inf., Co. E, 29th Inf. from 16 Apr 1902. Corp'l. 16 Apr 1899 to 25 Jan 1900. Sgt. 25 Jan 1900 to 2 Apr 1901. Batt. Sgt. Maj. 2 Apr 1901 to 11 May 1902. No marksmanship record.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: Expedition to P.I. 1899. No wounds received in service; good physical condition when discharged; service, honest & faithful continuous service at date of discharge, 9 years, 10 mos. & 4 days. Served in P.I. from 21 Aug 1899 until 24 Apr 1903. Place of enlistment under current discharge, Cebu, Cebu, P.I. Paid \$78.22 on 27 Apr 1903 at Iloilo, Panay, P.I., by Major & Paymaster.

Ruth Henderson Greet's Dec 2007 card says she found her father Frank Henderson's old wallet with an address book in it dated 1905, the year he set sail for New Zealand. In it was this address for Charles Duncan, "Head quarters Dep the Visay, Iloilo (sp?), Panay, Philippine Islands". This was crossed out and Nebraska, U.S.A. was written in.

A 27 Apr 1920 letter from Headquarters South Pacific Coast Artillery Dist., San Francisco, California, shows Charles Duncan was assigned to duty as an Army field clerk at these headquarters on 1 Oct 1917.

Charles Duncan's appointment to Warrant Officer paper shows his appointment was effective 27 Apr 1926. It was issued by the Sect'y. of War---office of the Adjutant General of the Army, Dist. of Columbia.

The Orders of War Dept., Wash., D.C., dated 18 Jun 1927, ordered Warrant Officer Charles Duncan, W-800090, Headqtrs, 7th Corps Area, Fort Omaha, Nebraska, to his home on or about 5 Jul 1927 and await retirement. On 2 Aug 1927 he was retired from active service after more than 30 years' service. These orders were in an envelope from War Dept. Headquarters, Pacific Coast Artillery Dist., Fort Miley, California.

RECRUITING STATION
26 6th-3d AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, June 21 1898

Enlisted this day by Capt. J. H. Henderson
at New York City, June 21, 1898.

Captain of the Infantry

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.



To all whom it may concern:

Know Ye, That Charles Duncan
a Sergeant of Company K of the Fifth Regiment of
Infantry who was enlisted the Eighteenth
day of May one thousand eight hundred and
Twenty Three to serve Five years is hereby honorably
discharged from the Army of the United States in consequence of
Expiration of term of service

Said Charles Duncan was born in Kent
in the State of England is 27 1/2 years of age 5 feet
8 inches high Dark complexion Brown eyes Black hair
and by occupation when enlisted a Clerk

Given under my hand at Tampa Fla. this Seventeenth
day of May in the year of our Lord
one thousand eight hundred and Twenty-eight

Wm. T. Wood
Colonel 9th Infantry Commanding

CHARACTER.

No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist.

Excellent

A.G.O. No. 79.

Wm. C. Fouts
Captain 9th Infantry
Commanding Post No.

MILITARY RECORD.

Non-Commissioned Officer. Selected Co. 1st Regt. 2nd Div. - August May 8/97.

Recommendations: None

Distinguished Service: None

Expeditions: Spanish-American

Campaigns: None

Previous Service: None

Marksmanship: 3rd Class 1896. 97.

Physical Condition when Discharged: Good

Wounds received in Service: None

Objections to Enlistment: None

Married or Single: Single

Battles, Engagements, Affairs or skirmishes: None

Remarks: Served Honest and Faithful

Atlanta, GA.

May 23, 1898

356. 96

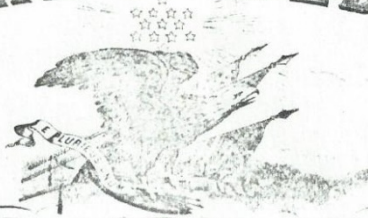
Paid

Major Paymaster, U. S. A.

Morris C. Fote

Captain 9th Infantry Commanding Company K

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES



To all whom it may concern

Know Ye. That Charles Duncan
a Corporal of Company 'F' of the 19th Regiment
of Infantry who was enlisted on the twenty first day of
June one thousand eight hundred and ninety eight
to serve three years is hereby Honorably Discharged from the
Army of the United States by reason of Verbal instructions
from the Secretary of War. G.O. #44 Hdqrs. Dept of Porto Rico April 10th 1899

The said Charles Duncan was born in
Kent in the State of England
and when enlisted was 28 years of age, 5 feet 8
inches high, Dark complexion, Brown Eyes, Black hair
and by occupation a Soldier.

Given under my hand at Asuncion Porto Rico
this fifteenth day of April in the year of our Lord
one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine

M. J. [Signature]
1549th, Comm. [Signature] Port

CHIEF

No objection to his [Signature]

[Signature]
D. Cell [Signature]

(A.G.O No. 79 March, 1898.)

PONCE, P. R. April 27, 1899

Paid in full \$180.31

[Signature]
mail & ad. [Signature] U. S. V.

MILITARY RECORD

Previous Service: 5 yrs Co. 'H' 9th Infantry

Non commissioned officer: Appointed Corp'l. Jan. 1st 1899.

Marksman'ship: Not Classified

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: Porto

Rican Expedition, Spanish American War 1898-99.

Wounds received in service: None

Physical condition when discharged: Good

Married, or single: Single

Remarks: Service Honest and faithful

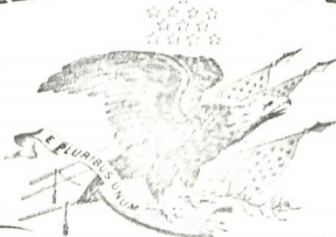
Em. M. Hrusak
19th Infantry
Commanding Co. 'F'

Company "F" 19th Infantry
Dunawayg Cebu P.I.
January 11th 1902

I certify that the records of this office
show that Battalion Sergeant Major Charles Duncan
19th Infantry served as an enlisted man in Company
"F" 19th Infantry, in Porto Rico from August 2nd 1898
till May 13th 1899

W. H. Helms
1st Lt 19th Inf.
Company "F"

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES



To all whom it may concern

Know Ye, That Charles Duncan
a Battalion Sg't. Major of the Nineteenth Regiment
of Infantry who was enlisted on the sixteenth day of
April one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine
to serve three years is hereby Honorably Discharged from the
Army of the United States by reason of expiration of
term of service.

The said Charles Duncan was born in
Kent in the State of England
and when enlisted was 28 ¹⁰/₂ years of age, 5 feet 8
inches high, Dark complexion, Broⁿ eyes, Black hair
and by occupation a Soldier.

Given under my hand at Vebu, Vebu, P. I.
this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord
one thousand nine hundred and two.

J. F. Huston
Major, 19th Infantry Commanding Post.

CHARACTER

No objection to his reenlistment is known to exist.

— Excellent —
Frank McIntyre,
Captain and Adjutant, 19th Infantry,
Com'd'g H. C. S. & Band.

(A. G. O. No. 79 March, 1898.)

MILITARY RECORD

Previous Service: Continuous service at time of discharge: 8 yrs. 9 mos. 21 days. Serving in the ninth (9th) year of continuous service since Jan.

Non-commissioned officer: Corporal from April 16, 1899 to Jan. 25, 1900. Sergt. from Jan. 25, 1900 to April 2, 1901. Appld. Battn. Sergt. Major April 2, 1901.

Marksmanship: No record.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: Expedition to Philippines 1899: Campaign on Island of Iloilo, P.I. Battle of San Blas, Nov. 20, 1899: Skirmish at Janaway Nov. 24, 1899.

Wounds received in service: None.

Physical condition when discharged: Good

Married or single: Single.

Remarks: Service Honest & Faithful: Served in Porto Rico from August 2, 1898 to May 13, 1899 & in Philippine Islands from August 21, 1899 to April 15, 1902.

Frank M. Hutyre,

Captain and Adjutant, 19th Infantry,

Commanding H.Q. 2nd Band.

Cebu, Cebu, P.I.,
April 15th 1902.

No subsistence furnished.

John M. Walling
2nd Lieutenant 19th Infantry,
C O M M I S S A R Y.

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER

Cebu, P.I., April 15, 1902.

No transportation furnished.
Battalion Sergeant Major
Charles Duncan, 19th Infantry
on this Discharge.

W. M. Caudy
Deputy Q.M. Gen'l., U.S.A.
Chief Quartermaster.

Paid in full \$226.56

J. A. Watson,
Major & Paymaster, U.S.A.

Cebu, Cebu, P.I.,
April 16, 1902.

Re-enlisted this day for
the Non Commissioned Staff,
19th U.S. Infantry.

Frank M. Hutyre

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES



To all whom it may concern

Know Ye, That Charles Duncan
a Private of Co. "E" of the 19th Regiment
of Infantry who was enlisted on the 16th day of
April one thousand ^{nine} eight hundred and two
to serve 3 years is hereby Honorably Discharged from the
Army of the United States by reason of 7th Ind. Hdqrs. Dep't of the
Interior, Apr. 14, 1903. In 6th Ind., Hdqrs. Div. Phila. Authority granted under G.O. 141, P. 1900, Div. Phila.

The said Charles Duncan was born in
Kent in the State of England
and when enlisted was 31 ¹⁰/₁₂ years of age, 5 feet 8
inches high, dark complexion, brown eyes, black hair
and by occupation a soldier.

Given under my hand at Stoils, Panay, P. I.
this 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord
one thousand nine hundred and three.

Chas. H. Paine, Captain, 19th Infantry.
Commanding.

CHARACTER

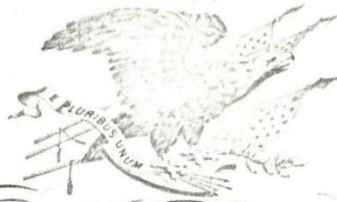
No objection to his reenlistment is known to exist.

"Excellent".

Chas. H. Paine, Capt., 19th Inf.,
Commanding Detachment.

(A. G. O. No. 79 March, 1898.)

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES



To all whom it may concern

Know Ye, That Charles Duncan
a Private of Co. "E" of the 19th Regiment
of Infantry who was enlisted on the 16th day of
April one thousand ^{nine} hundred and two
to serve 3 years is hereby Honorably Discharged from the
Army of the United States by reason of 7th Ind. Hdqrs. Dir. of the
Insayas, Apr. 1st, 1903. In 6th Ind. Hdqrs. Dir. Phil. Authority granted under G.O. 141, P. 1900, Dir. Phil.

The said Charles Duncan was born in
Kent in the State of England
and when enlisted was 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of age, 5 feet 8
inches high, dark complexion, brown eyes, black hair
and by occupation a soldier.

Given under my hand at Alois, Panay, P. I.
this 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord
one thousand nine hundred and three.

Chas. H. Paine, Captain, 19th Infantry.
Commanding.

CHARACTER

No objection to his reenlistment is known to exist.

Excellent.

Chas. H. Paine, Capt., 19th Inf.,
Commanding Detachment.

(A.G.O No. 79 March, 1898)

MILITARY RECORD

Boiled. Pres. O.S.
APR 27 1903
Paid in full \$78.22
M. H. Lord
Major & Paymaster, U.S.

*5 yrs. Co. "H," 9th Inf. from May 18, 1893; 9 mos. 25 days, Co. "F," 19th Inf. from June 21, 1898; 5 yrs. Co. "F,"
Previous Service: U.S.A. 19th Inf. from Apr. 16, 1899. 1 yr. 9 days, W.C.D., 19th Inf. B.C., 29th Inf. from Apr. 16, 1902*

*Non-commissioned officer: Capt. Apr. 16, 1899 to Jan. 25, 1900; Sgt. Jan. 25, 1900 to Apr. 2, 1901; Batt. Sgt. Maj.
Apr. 2, 1901 to May 11, 1902.*

Marksman'ship: No record.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions:

Expedition to Philippines, 1899.

Wounds received in service: None.

Physical condition when discharged: Good.

Married or single: Single.

Remarks: Service, honest and faithful.

Continuous service at date of discharge, 9 years, 10 months and 4 days.

Served in Philippines from Aug. 21, 1899 until April 24, 1903.

Place of enlistment under current discharge, Cebu, Cebu, P. I.

Chas. H. Paine

Captain, 19th Inf.,

Commanding.

MILITARY RECORD

APR 27 1903
Major & Paymaster
W. H. L. D.

Previous Service: 5 yrs. Co. "H," 9th Inf. from May 18, 1893; 9 mos. 25 days, Co. "F," 19th Inf. from June 21, 1898; 3 yrs. 6 mos. 19th Inf. from Apr. 16, 1899. 1 yr. 9 days, M. O. 19th Inf. & Co. "E," 29th Inf. from Apr. 1, 1900.

Non-commissioned officer: Capt. Apr. 16, 1899 to Jan. 25, 1900; Sgt. Jan. 25, 1900 to Apr. 2, 1901; Batt. Qr. Master Apr. 2, 1901 to May 11, 1901.

Marksmanship: No record.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions:

Expedition to Philippines, 1899.

Wounds received in service: None.

Physical condition when discharged: Good.

Married or single: Single.

Remarks: Service, honest and faithful.

Continuous service at date of discharge, 9 years, 10 months and 4 days.

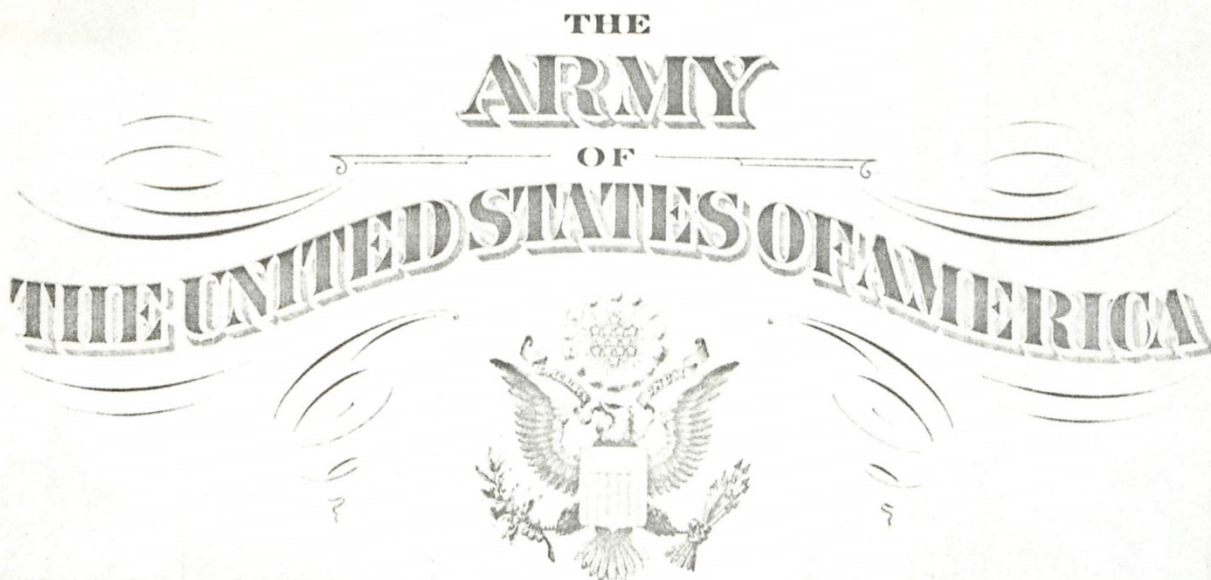
Served in Philippines from Aug. 21, 1899 until April 24, 1903.

Place of enlistment under current discharge, Cebu, Cebu, P. I.

Chas. H. Paine

Captain, 19th Inf.,

Commanding.



To all who shall see these presents, greeting:
Know Ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity
and abilities of CHARLES DUNCAN

the Secretary of War has appointed him

A Warrant Officer in the Army of the United States:

to rank as such from the twenty-seventh day of April
nineteen hundred and twenty-six. He is therefore carefully and diligently to
discharge the duty of the office to which he is appointed by doing and performing all
manner of things thereunto belonging. And all Warrant Officers, Non Commis-
sioned Officers and Soldiers under his command are strictly charged and
required to be obedient to his orders as a Warrant Officer of his position.
And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time,
as he shall receive from the Superior Officers and Warrant Officers set
over him, according to the rules and discipline of War.

Given under my hand at the office of The Adjutant General of the Army,
District of Columbia, this twenty-eighth day of May
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six and in
the one hundred and fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.

Robert C. Davis

The Adjutant General

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
Adjudication Form 534
Revised May 1942

CLAIM No. _____

APPLICATION FOR PENSION OR COMPENSATION BY WIDOW and/or CHILD OF A DECEASED PERSON WHO SERVED IN THE ACTIVE MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES

This form is to be used in making application for pension or compensation and accrued benefits under any public law of the United States. After execution, it should be forwarded directly to the Veterans Administration.

I, FRANCES SELINA DUNCAN
(Print clearly) (First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

hereby make application for pension or compensation as the widow
(State your relationship to the veteran)
of the veteran described below, and for any accrued benefits that may be payable:

1. (a) Name of deceased veteran CHARLES DUNCAN
(b) Race Caucasian (c) Date of birth June 4, 1870
(d) His place of birth Graveyard Kent England
(City or town) (County) (State)

2. Did the deceased veteran ever apply for pension, compensation, disability allowance, emergency officers' retirement pay, Government insurance, or adjusted-compensation benefits during his lifetime? Yes If so, indicate which benefit was applied for and give the claim number The veteran paid premiums on War Risk Insurance during World War
No. 1 and for some little time thereafter. This was term insurance. No claim was therefore involved.

3. (a) Give dates of enlistment and discharge for each period of service of deceased veteran in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard of the United States:

ENLISTED		SERIAL No.	DISCHARGED		RANK AND ORGANIZATION
Date	Place		Date	Place	
May 18, 1893	New York City, N. Y.	None	May 17, 1898	Tampa, Florida	Sergt., Co. H, 9 th U. S. Inf.
June 21, 1898	New York City, N. Y.	None	April 15, 1899	Adjuntas, P. R.	Capt., Co. F, 19 th U. S. Inf.
April 16, 1899	Adjuntas, P. R.	None	April 15, 1902	Cebu, Cebu, P. I.	Batt. Sgt. Maj. 19 th U. S. Inf.
April 16, 1902	Cebu, Cebu, P. I.	None	April 24, 1903	St. Louis, P. I.	Sgt., Co. E, 24 th U. S. Inf.
Aug. 29, 1916	San Francisco, California	FC800090	Apr. 26, 1926	Omaha, Nebr.	Army Field Clerk
April 27, 1926	Omaha, Nebr.	W800090	Aug. 2, 1927 (Retired)	Omaha, Nebr.	Warrant Officer, U. S. Army.

- (b) Did veteran serve under a name other than the one given in answer to question No. 1? No If so, state the other name and the service rendered under that name _____

4. (a) Date of veteran's death. (See instruction No. 2) _____
(b) Place of death _____
(c) Cause of death _____
5. How many times was veteran married? Once Indicate to whom and how each marriage was terminated in space below: (See instruction No. 3)

DATE AND PLACE OF MARRIAGE	TO WHOM MARRIED	HOW MARRIAGE TERMINATED (Death, Divorce)	DATE AND PLACE MARRIAGE TERMINATED
July 30, 1909 Allison, Nebraska	(Miss) Fanny See	Was still married to	veteran at time of his death.

16-19417-2

6. (a) Name of widow FRANCES SELINA DUNCAN
 (b) Present address _____
 (c) Has she remarried since death of veteran? No
 (d) If so, give name of person to whom married and date of marriage _____
7. Was veteran survived by mother or father? No If so, give names and addresses:
 Father's name _____ Address _____
 Mother's name _____ Address _____
8. If claimant is widow of deceased veteran, give following information:
 (a) Maiden name FRANCES SELINA GEE
 (b) Date of birth February 4, 1888 (c) Place of birth Bonanza Precinct, approx. 18 miles S.W. of Albion
Boone Nebraska
 (County) (State)
 (d) How many times was she married? Once (e) Did she live continuously with the veteran from date of marriage to date of his death? Yes If not, state fully all the facts and circumstances which led up to and immediately attended the separation, as well as the date or dates and the duration thereof, and if there was a separation by court order attach a certified copy of such order.

 (f) Did any other husband render military or naval service? There was no other husband
 If so, state claim number assigned to him or them by the Veterans Administration or the former Veterans Bureau or Bureau of Pensions in the event a claim was filed _____
 (g) Indicate to whom married and how each marriage of the widow was terminated, in space below: (See instruction No. 3)

DATES AND PLACES OF ALL MARRIAGES	TO WHOM MARRIED	HOW MARRIAGE TERMINATED (Death, Divorce)	DATE AND PLACE OF TERMINATION
<u>July 30, 1909</u> <u>Albion, Nebraska</u>	<u>Charles Duncan</u>	<u>Death</u>	

9. State below the name of each living child of the deceased veteran, including adopted children and stepchildren, under 18 years of age and unmarried, or over 18 years of age and under 21 years of age, unmarried and attending school; or by any age who is insane, idiotic, or otherwise permanently helpless or incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect: (See instruction No. 4)

NAME OF CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF EACH CHILD

10. Which, if any, of the children is—(a) Stepchild? _____;
 (b) an adopted child? _____; (c) an illegitimate child? _____;
 or (d) a helpless child? _____; (e) over 18 and attending school? _____
 (See instruction No. 4 (b))
11. If any child was a stepchild, was such child a member of the veteran's household at the time of his death? _____
12. (To be answered by widow only.) Is it your desire that this application also be considered as a claim for compensation or pension benefits for any of the veteran's children not in your custody? _____ If so, give name of child or children and name and post-office address of person having custody of each child _____
13. (a) What is the amount of the widow's present and expected annual income? _____
 (b) If claim is solely for children, what is the amount of their annual income? _____
 (c) Name the sources of income and amount from each source _____
14. Has the claimant filed, or is the claimant filing a claim for: (a) Compensation or pension based on the service of any other person? No (b) Retainer pay? No
 (c) Retirement pay? No (d) Adjusted compensation? No (e) Government insurance? No (f) Compensation from the United States Employees' Compensation Commission? No (g) State Employees' Compensation Commission? No (h) Old Age Assistance? No (i) Survivors' insurance under the Social Security Act? No (j) Civil Service annuity? No (k) Any other benefits from the United States? No Give full particulars including date, place, claim number, and full name of person on account of whose service each claim was filed, and whether payments are now being received by reason of any such claim _____
15. (a) Was the applicant named as beneficiary of any insurance policies of the veteran at the time of his death? Yes If so, give name of companies and policy numbers Shimandrah Life Insurance Co. Policy No. 3497
 (b) Has the widow received, or will she receive, any commercial or fraternal insurance payments? No If so, name the source and amount thereof _____
16. Was deceased veteran employed by the United States Government in a civilian capacity at the time of his death? No If so, in what capacity? _____

17. Has any child named in this application ever applied for benefits from the National Youth Administration? No If so, give name, claim number, and benefits, if any, being received _____
18. Is the widow or any child in receipt of active-service pay on account of service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard? _____
19. Did any person or persons assist or advise you in the preparation of this application? Yes If so, give the name and address of such person or persons, and state the nature and extent of the assistance or advice, the amount of fee paid or to be paid for such assistance My late husband, the deceased veteran referred to in par. 1 of this application, assisted in the greater part of its preparation.
No fee for this service was paid or is to be paid.

I make the foregoing statements, as part of my claim, with full knowledge of the penalty provided for making a false statement.

WITNESSES TO SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT IF MADE BY (X) MARK	
NOTE.—Signatures made by mark must be witnessed by two persons to whom the person making the affidavit is personally known, and the signatures and addresses of such witnesses must be shown below.	
1. _____ (Signature of witness)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
2. _____ (Signature of witness)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Signature of claimant)

(Address)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____,
by (Mrs.) Francis Selina Duncan claimant, by whom (to whom)
(Strike out part not applicable)
the questions and answers were read and the statements made herein were fully explained.

[SEAL]

Notary Public.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT MUST BE SIGNED BY TWO WITNESSES. (See Instruction 10)

We, the undersigned, severally state that we are well acquainted with the person whose name is subscribed above, and that we know said person to be the widow or guardian or next friend of the incompetent widow
guardian or next friend of the child } of Charles Duncan
(Strike out parts not applicable) (Name of veteran)
the deceased veteran on whose service this claim is based; that we have read the statements made herein, and the facts stated are true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Signature of witness)

(Address of witness)

(Signature of witness)

(Address of witness)

16-19417-1

**IMPORTANT
EVERY CLAIMANT MUST FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING**

Claim is hereby made for death compensation or pension as the widow or guardian or next friend of the incompetent widow
guardian or next friend of the child } of Charles Duncan
(Strike out parts not applicable) (Name of veteran)

WITNESSES TO SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT IF MADE BY (X) MARK	
NOTE.—Signatures made by mark must be witnessed by two persons to whom the person making the affidavit is personally known, and the signatures and addresses of such witnesses must be shown below.	
1. _____ (Signature of witness)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
2. _____ (Signature of witness)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Signature of person making claim)

Widow of veteran
(State whether widow of veteran or guardian or custodian of veteran's children)

Date _____

Claim No. _____
(Veterans Administration will enter)

16-19417

The Application for Pension Form was revised in May 1942, so completed after that date. It said Charles Duncan, the veteran, paid premiums on War Risk Insurance during WWI and for some little time thereafter. This was term insurance. No claim was therefore involved. He did not serve under any other name than Charles Duncan. He was born on 4 Jun 1870 in Gravesend, Kent, England, and his parents died before the completion of this form. He married Frances Selina Gee on 30 Jul 1909 in Albion, Nebraska. She was born on 2 Feb 1888 in the Bonanza Precinct, approx. 18 miles S.W. of Albion, Boone County, Nebraska. Charles and Fanny had married only once and she was the beneficiary of the life insurance policy from Shenandoah Life Insur. Co., policy No. 3497. He was not a civilian employee of the U.S. government at the time of death. The following are his dates and places of enlistment, discharge dates and places, and rank and organizations at time of discharge:

ENLISTMENT DATE & PLACE	DISCHARGE DATE & PLACE	RANK & ORGANIZATION
18 May 1893 New York City, New York	17 May 1898 Tampa, Florida	Sgt., Co. H, 9 th U.S. Inf.
21 Jun 1898 New York City, New York	15 Apr 1899 Adjuntas, P.R.	Corp. Co. F, 19 th U.S. Inf.
16 Apr 1899 Adjuntas, P.R.	15 Apr 1902 Cebu, Cebu, P.I.	Batt'n. Sgt. Maj., 19th U.S. Inf.
16 Apr 1902 Cebu, Cebu, P.I.	24 Apr 1903 Iloilo, P.I.	Pvt., Co. E, 29 th U.S. Inf.
29 Aug 1916 San Francisco, California	26 Apr 1926 Omaha, Nebraska	Army Field Clerk 27
Apr 1926 Omaha, Nebraska	2 Aug 1927 (retired) Omaha, Neb.	Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

On 26 Oct 1932 a General Affidavit of Soldier & Wife was signed by Charles and Fanny Selina Duncan and notarized. Their residence is 745 Daisy Ave., Long Beach, California. He is 62 years, 4 months old and a retired Warrant Officer, U.S. Army. He married Fanny Selina Gee on 30 Jul 1909. She was age 44 years, 8 months old. Neither had been previously married. He served in the following organizations and held these ranks:

Co. H, 9th U.S. Inf. from 18 May 1893 to 17 May 1898
 Co. F, 19th U.S. Inf. from 21 Jun 1898 to 15 Apr 1899
 Co. F & Batt'n NCS, 19th U.S. Inf. 16 Apr 1899 to 15 Apr 1902
 Batt'n NCS, 19th U.S. Inf. & Co. E, 29th U.S. Inf., 16 Apr 1902 to 24 Apr 1903
 Army Field Clerk, 29 Aug 1916 to 26 Apr 1926
 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army, 27 Apr 1926 to 3 Aug 1927.

He is not a Spanish War Pensioner and not a member of the United Spanish War Veterans.

On 15 Nov 1932 Halser [Walter?] A. Hallstrom, 3535 Engine Place, San Diego, California, age 56, retired Capt. U.S. Army, completed a Pension Claim-Witness for Veteran form. He stated he knew Charles Duncan is a retired Warrant Officer, U.S. Army and his only marriage was to Fanny Selina Gee. He has known Charles for 27 years.

On 6 Dec 1932 August Scholle, 116 Park Ave., Squantum, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, age 73, retired 1st Sgt., U.S. Army, completed a Pension Claim-Witness for Veteran form. He stated he knew Charles Duncan when Charles was a private, corporal and sergeant in Co. H, 9th U.S. Inf. from about 1 Oct 1894 to 17 May 1898 and he was single during this time. Charles' wife is Fanny Selina.

Charles and Frances Duncan in Long Beach, California, 1930s-40s



Above photo from Nov 1935





**Charles Duncan,
Long Beach,
California**



**Charles Duncan and one of his
granddaughters, Long Beach**



**L to R: Charles and Frances Duncan and Frances' sister,
Sarah "Sadie" Johnson, nee Gee, Long Beach**



27 May 1933 letter from Charles Duncan to sister, Clara Henderson

745 DAISY AVENUE,
Long Beach, California,
March 27, 1933.

My dear Clara:

I should have written sooner but ~~haxing~~ have been putting it off and putting it off until I might feel just in the right mood; and then also I wasn't quite sure how much publicity had been accorded the recent Southern California earthquake.

Inclosed herewith is a clipping from THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR published the day following the earthquake, which gives a good account of the happening. Fanny, George and I were visiting at the home of some friends when the great shock came at 5.55 p.m. March 10th, and in ten minutes more would have been sitting down to dinner with them. The house was rocked quite violently for 17 or 18 seconds, the earth's oscillation for ten seconds of that period being 3 and one-eighth inches. The first shock was followed by others at intervals of ten or fifteen minutes, gradually extending to intervals of half an hour throughout the remainder of that night. Then for the next couple of days the shocks were fairly frequent; they still continue but have been gradually decreasing in number and diminishing in power until now, seventeen days after the first shock, only about one a day is noticeable and that rather faintly. It will serve no useful purpose to go into the details, except to say that every member of our family, also Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Gee (Fan's sister and mother) is unharmed, and the only material loss we sustained was the breaking of the frame of a good-sized mirror. The city gas was shut off at the gas works immediately, thus eliminating in large degree the danger of a big fire. We were without gas for thirteen days during the greater part of which time our cooking was done over a messy gasoline stove which Charles got from a friend living in Los Angeles. A considerable portion - perhaps one-third to one-half - of the Long Beach population slept out of doors the night of March 10th, and one-half of this number repeated the performance the following night. After that they gradually commenced to get back to their houses. The schools and churches suffered most, but practically all were empty at the time of the first shock, in fact, this question of time was the most important feature of the whole affair. FIVE MINUTES TO 6 P.M. It meant that school work for the day was over, the only young people at any of the schools being a few that were engaged in athletics. Churches were empty, and theatres practically so. Business offices were ~~generally~~ ^{generally} deserted and very few people were left in such stores as were then open.

Where disasters of this nature have occurred in large communities before, fully as many deaths have resulted from disease and privation as from the quake itself. Fortunately the Southern California climate is so mild and we have had no rain this month, and the feeding arrangements for refugees and the destitute have been so ample, that we have been spared almost entirely from the customary after effects; for all of which we are very thankful.

I received your Christmas 1932 letter all right but can't seem to lay my hand on it just now. It is around somewhere and will be properly answered when next I write. We are all well. No change in the status of any of us. Good by for this time. Lovingly,

Charles

Newspaper clippings about the Long Beach Earthquake attached to the 27 May 1933 letter from Charles Duncan to sister, Clara Henderson

Quakes Cause 121 Fatalities, Huge Loss in California

Tremors Leave Trail of Ruin in 100 Communities; Relief Work Rushed

LOS ANGELES, March 11 (AP)—Counting its earthquake dead at 120 or more, its injured at about 4000 and its property damage in the tens of millions of dollars, southern California felt the aftermath of 18 major shocks which struck at intervals last night and this morning.

Long Beach, where the tremors struck hardest, reported at least 65 fatalities and about 1000 injured. Anaheim Boulevard, extending almost two miles eastward into the residential section, was the hardest hit, scarcely a building there escaping damage.

Rehabilitation work was started immediately by city manager C. S. Dobbin, who said state aid would be available. More than 2000 men were called to clean up the city today.

Los Angeles, which counted five dead and an estimated 3000 injured, witnessed the crumbling of many brick walls, the collapse of a few old buildings and the appearance of cracks in its new 28-story city hall.

Eighteen Shocks

The first shock came at 5:54 p. m. yesterday; the eighteenth at 3:43 a. m. today. Seismologists said the shocks might continue for weeks.

From more than 100 communities came reports of casualties and damage in the most severe earthquake in the modern history of Los Angeles and vicinity.

Compton reported 13 dead and 150 injured.

Fire added its havoc to the scene of desolation in many cities. Débris-littered streets hampered the movement of fire-fighting apparatus.

President Roosevelt messaged Gov. James Rolph Jr. of California that "if there is anything needed that the Government can do wire me at once."

Sixty physicians and nurses sped from Los Angeles by special train to Long Beach, where a police report said 65 bodies had been recovered.

The United States fleet, stationed at San Pedro, lost no time in engaging in relief work. Four thousand marines and sailors, with officers, were immediately sent ashore in Long Beach and San Pedro to assist in hospitalization, housing, feeding and sanitation measures.

Long Beach Hit Hardest; Damage Widespread

By the Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Calif.—At least 65 persons believed dead and 1000 injured. The city apparently nearest the quake's epicenter. Hospitals filled. Major store and office buildings damaged in some degree and many small structures collapsed. United States sailors and Marines aided police and American Legionnaires in patrolling streets.

Los Angeles—Five dead, estimated injured 3000. Southern end of city hardest hit. Cracks appeared in new 28-story City Hall. Several downtown streets strewn with fallen debris. Few old buildings collapsed.

Compton—Thirteen dead, 150 injured. Several brick buildings fell.

Huntington Park—Twelve dead. A small community with a large business district. Many buildings damaged. High school burned.

Watts—Four dead. Several buildings down.

Santa Ana—Three dead, scores injured. Numerous buildings destroyed.

San Pedro—Two dead. Buildings damaged.

Artesia—Four dead.

Bellflower—Three dead.

Wilmington, Hermosa Beach, Norwalk, Garden Grove and Walnut Park—One dead in each.

Hollywood, Pasadena, Ventura, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills and other suburbs were severely jolted and there was damage in some of these. The quake was felt as far south as Tijuana, Mexico, and as far north as San Jose.

Relief Agencies Launch Work in California

WASHINGTON, March 11 (AP)—The full force of American relief agencies was thrown into action for the California earthquake area yesterday by President Roosevelt.

The army, navy and public health service were ordered to work for whatever steps might be necessary to protect human life and property.

Reports to the White House from the commander-in-chief of the battle fleet in Pacific waters indicated that this unit could take care of the situation.

Long Beach Bears Brunt; Homeless Camp in Streets

LONG BEACH, March 11 (AP)—Amid the ruins of buildings, Long Beach camped last night.

Hundreds of fires dotted the debris-filled streets as the homeless attempted to warm themselves.

Pine Avenue, a main thoroughfare, was a pitiful scene of wreckage. Nearly every store along the broad street bore shattered windows, caved-in walls and, in some instances, total demolition.

Ten thousand sailors, augmented by members of the American Legion, patrolled the streets, protecting merchandise from sabotage. Many store owners moved their stocks into the streets.

The city was under martial law but despite the confusion and terror there was no rioting.

The residential district differed little in appearance from the wreckage-strewn downtown area. Some families sat in shattered houses. Others camped on lawns under improvised shelter, their possessions about them.

Among the larger buildings wrecked were the plant of the Press-Telegram, a portion of the Imperial Theater, the Woodrow Wilson High School, the city fire station and part of a large department store. Five men were killed in the crash of the fire station. Two students were killed at the high school, where a track meet had been completed only a short time previously.

Police paid little attention to the dead, directing their efforts toward rescue of the injured who flowed into the Seaside hospital and the dead were laid in roads in the rear of the structure as ambulance drivers were forced to turn their efforts toward transporting of the injured.

Aid From Washington

From Washington came announcement that full forces of American relief agencies would be placed into action in the earthquake area. The army, navy and public health service were ordered to take whatever steps might be necessary to protect human life and property.

Emergency and other hospitals, while crowded with injured, reported they were able to care for the injured.

The earthquakes shook part of the richest section of California, an area 200 miles long and some 30 miles wide. More than 2,000,000 persons live in this area, which includes the heart of the motion picture industry, the great citrus belt and the home of the wealthy in

**Christmas card from Clare Henderson
to Charles and Frances Duncan, 1937, outside**



**Christmas card from Clare Henderson
to Charles and Frances Duncan, 1937, inside**
(Inside note on card)



*Kind Thoughts for
Christmas and
All Good Wishes for
the New Year.*

TO *all at 3404 E 3rd St.*

FROM *Clare.*

16 Aug 1936 letter from Charles Duncan to Clara Henderson

366 CERRITOS AVENUE
Long Beach, California
August 16, 1938

Dear Clara:

Thanks for your very nice letter of 3d December, 1937. Like all your letters it was very interesting.

This is not really my regular annual letter. I just wanted to let you know that we have moved (see present address above), but as long as that called for a communication I thought you would like to hear further from me.

So far as living accommodations are concerned, the opportunity of improving our condition presented itself, so we moved on February 1, 1938, to the present address, a point about a mile and a half nearer the center of town, by which I mean the center of town activities. We rent a furnished flat for \$25 a month, and, separated therefrom, a good garage for \$3 a month more; total, \$28 a month. The last place we tenanted cost \$32 a month for house and garage together. So there is a saving of \$4 a month alone. We also have an electric refrigerator in this flat, which saves the expense of buying ice for the ice box, which averaged about \$2.50 a month before. Being nearer in now than formerly there is some saving in street-car fare. Our landlady lives next door and is a very splendid woman. Fanny's sister Sadie now lives with her. Hot water is furnished gratuitously (another saving of fully a dollar a month) and a paid gardener keeps up the grounds surrounding the house, so I have no more gardening to bother with.

I suppose the most important news is to announce the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duncan, jr., on She is called Lorraine Evelyn; has just cut her first tooth, and is a charming young lady. Inclosed herewith are two photographs, one of Charles and his wife, Ruth, the other of Charles and his baby when she was about three months' old. There are also inclosed some newspaper clippings containing remarks from prominent individuals regarding war conditions in Europe. I thought you might find them interesting, so saved them for you. On both sides of the Atlantic we are all reading a great deal on this subject, and one man's guess is as good as another's, so I will not take up time with vague speculations, other than to say that, in general, we in the United States don't like Mussolini and Hitler any more than you do; and right now, we don't like the P Japs, but don't mind selling them war munitions when they are able to pay for them. Incidentally it is noted that they are no longer flush with cash. I might also add that we regard Mexico unfavorably, due, of course, to that country's confiscatory attitude towards foreign utility holding -- railroads, oil fields, etc. As a result of this unfortunate action tourist trade of Americans visiting Mexico has fallen off greatly.

We noted the earthquake which was felt in your part of the world June 11. It must have been a surprise. I also read in a recent issue of our ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL that the British Army is about to benefit by legislation improving pay and retirement conditions. Although it is coming slowly there is a democratizing influence at work in your Army. It is getting more and more possible for a man without outside income to ~~now~~ obtain and hold a commission. Over here the

continued

Army warrant officers at the last session of Congress made a strong attempt to get a little more pay, and despite objection to the measure on the part of the War Department, the thing was jammed through both Houses of Congress on the closing day of that session (June 16); ten days later, however, the Bill was vetoed by the President, the draft for said veto being written by some one in the War Department. Ah me! 'Tis hard to kick against the pricks. Our Warrant Officers Association thought they could put over a fast one on the War Department, but it is just like pleading a case in court -- the attorney making the last address has a decided advantage over his opponent. We are looking forward, however, to the possibility of a new pay scheme for Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard service being enacted into law at the next session of Congress; but this will not become effective until July 1, 1939, and many things are apt to happen between now and then. In the meantime the prospects look good. Congress has ordered the departments above mentioned to study the pay situation and submit drafts of appropriate bills by January 1.

George (our younger son) is now almost 13 years of age. He was able to spend two weeks at Sierra Madre last month, a small town 35 miles to the north of Long Beach, and is now enjoying a week in a Boy Scout camp in the mountains 120 miles east of here. By the middle of September school work will be resumed. George is growing to be a fine-looking boy. He is strong, happy, and makes friends wherever he goes. Has been taking violin lessons during the last nine months and has made reasonably good progress, but is not enthusiastic about practicing. Charles is still with the same aeroplane factory and has had either one or two raises since I last wrote. That is an industry that is certainly booming. Agnes quit work at the Buffum Hotel about February last and her husband Donald obtained permanent employment in a large hardware store here at the same time. They are getting along nicely.

We are expecting to make a trip to Big Bear Lake on August 27; stay there at our landlady's lodge that night, and return home the following day. It is 125 miles distant from Long Beach, and is quite a mountain and lake resort.

Once more, Good by. With love,
Yours,

Charles

**Charles and Fanny Duncan and son, George Duncan,
at Big Bear, California, 7 Sep 1938**



22 Nov 1938 letter from Charles Duncan to Clare Henderson

266 CERRITOS AVENUE

Long Beach, California

November 23, 1938

Dear Clare:

Thanks for your letter of 19th September, mailed the following day, and delivered to me October 1st. Now that's what I call quick work on the part of the postal authorities.

You happened to speak of electricity rates. Our local Chamber of Commerce when mentioning advantages to be derived from living in Long Beach always refers to gas and electric rates which they claim to be among the cheapest in the country. These have been steadily coming down since we arrived here eleven years ago, until now, to small consumers like ourselves, the gas rate is 6 cents (three pence in English money) per 100 cubic feet, and the electric rate is about 3.7 cents per kilowatt hour. For the month just passed our gas bill was 96 cents and the bill for electric current \$3.65 -- \$4.61 for the two combined (something less than one pound English money). That is a good fair average for the year, because in January it will be a little more and in July a little less. You will note that the system of computing charges has no relation to assessed value of the property but concerns itself entirely with the amount consumed. Of course, large users like factories and department stores get lower rates.

You also mentioned a carpenter named Austin who used to be a member of the St. Andrew's cricket club. I can't remember him. Probably he joined after my time. Talking about cricket reminds me that a month ago my son-in-law Don and his wife Agnes drove me to Griffith Park, Los Angeles, one Sunday to see a cricket match played by two elevens of Britishers, quite a number of whom are in the film industry at Hollywood. That grand old actor Henry Stephenson is primarily responsible for the existence of the club from which the two teams were drawn. They had a much better field and pitch than I had expected to find and the game was very enjoyable. Agnes liked the game; Don did not. There were very, very few spectators.

A couple of months ago we visited the local inner harbor to see the small Chinese junk which had just arrived from Asia bringing four persons, an American dentist named Peterson, his American-born Japanese wife, and two Russian sailors. They made the journey in between three and four months and came through without any mishap. It was just an adventure but it proved again the seaworthiness of that type of craft, which, I understand, has not changed its form for several centuries.

George is continuing with violin lessons. His teacher now is Charles' wife Ruth. Now that we have the violin I enjoy playing it also. Long Beach is quite a musical town -- has innumerable musical societies, clubs, orchestras, some fine church choirs, and its renowned municipal band under the leadership of Herbert F. Clarke. This band plays an average of ten concerts a week -- all free because the band is maintained by city funds and plays in the city auditorium. I attend about four concerts a week in the afternoons and find them enjoyable.

Fan and I thought after reading your letter that you are pro Eden rather than pro Chamberlain. I think I am too; but at any rate we must be grateful that hostilities were averted on October 1st. Now that that crisis has passed there are those who are saying that had Chamber-

continued

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

lain and Dalardier called Hitler's bluff the latter would have backed down. Perhaps so and perhaps not. It appears, however, that England and France combined are outnumbered by Germany in the air and that a feverish race is now on ^{to} reduce this inequality. Of course you have heard that the United States is also increasing its armament. Steps are being taken towards increasing the Navy; but remember, it takes from four to five years here to build and equip a battleship. Much too is being said with regard to increasing our Army air force; but it takes an authorization from Congress to make such ideas effective and that body will not meet until January 3d, and the higher-ups in our Army are not enthusiastic about really splurging in this direction. The point is it would require a lot more men in that branch of the service and that means bigger appropriations for pay. Just now Congress is in the mood -- such appropriations could be passed -- but bursts of hysteria pass away, and the one thing we strive to guard against is reductions. It's so easy sometimes to build up and so hard to tear down. Incidentally also we are hoping for a new pay schedule, with an upward revision, and we can't boost for too many things at the same time. The idea is, make up your mind upon what you want to achieve, then concentrate your fire upon it.

A general election was held throughout the United States November 8th. As a result thereof the Republicans made substantial gains in Congress; but that was almost inevitable. Roosevelt and the Democrats effected such a landslide six years ago that a change in the swinging of the pendulum was bound to occur, whatever might have happened. Here in Long Beach we elected the mayor of the city, a Republican named Eaton, to Congress, to take the place of a Democrat lawyer named Scott who has represented the city for the last four years and who was a candidate for reelection; and yet the voters' registration shows about three Democrats to two Republicans. The most interesting item, however, on which we were called upon to vote, was not political but sociological -- a plan to pay \$30 every Thursday, in warrants, to every person in the State over 50 years of age; this without regard to their financial condition, the only requirement being that they be neither employers nor employees. It failed by 200,000 votes; but it is expected that it will be resubmitted to the electorate in three or four months' time.

I was pleased to note the consummation recently of the new trade pacts between Great Britain and the U.S. This will tend to lower prices here on certain articles imported from the United Kingdom.

The Northrup aeroplane factory where Charles was employed had to lay him off three weeks ago, due to completion of contracts. He is keeping in touch with the various aeroplane factories in this vicinity and expects to obtain employment again by about the first of the new year. We are all well. With best wishes for a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

With love,

Charles

Concert Program to Be Played by Municipal Band

SATURDAY, APRIL 2.

Herbert L. Clarke, Director.
George H. Tyler, Assistant.

Afternoon, 2:30, Band Shell, Weather
Permitting.

No Evening Concert.

Soloists:

Cornet—Paul C. Hennel.

Flute—Harrison J. Melhorn.

March, "Golden Eagle" (New).....
Pat Lee

Overture, "Frontier" (New)
Gus Guentzel

Cornet Solo, "Villette Polka"
Richards

Scenes from "The Red Mill".....Herbert

INTERVAL.

"Hungarian Fantasia, No. 1".....Tobani
Characteristic, "Woodland Whis-
pers"Czibulka

(Request)

Flute Solo, "La Fleurance".....Mayeur
Finale, "Panora"Holmes

Reverse of above clipping

Writer Tells of War Danger

NEW YORK, April 1. — (U.P.) — William Philip Simms, foreign editor of the Scripps-Howard newspapers, said today on his return on the Bremen that the current European situation has dangerous potentialities.

"Europe is possibly as near to war as she has been since 1914," he said, "but I think it does not necessarily mean war because peace is quite possible. Prime Minister Chamberlain has a good chance to prevent war.

"He is working very hard to prevent war and, in my judgment, he is doing the biggest job in the peace line in Europe today since Versailles.

"The longer that England can hold off war until she is armed, and she is arming faster than any country ever armed before, the greater the possibility of peace becomes."

Left: 1 Apr 1938 clipping from unknown newspaper. Charles Duncan wrote in his 22 Nov 1938 letter to Clara Henderson he attended these band concerts four times weekly.

Avoidance of War Hope of Hoover

Statesman Home From
Europe Optimistic
as to Future.

By JOHN FERRIS

NEW YORK, March 29.—(AP)—Herbert Hoover came home from Europe today with eight new honorary degrees, eighteen new medals and the conviction that a general war is not imminent in Europe.

Degrees, medals and conviction, a conviction persisting in spite of the extensive military preparations which he witnessed, were gathered in a two-months tour of fourteen countries. It was his first trip abroad in nineteen years. Smiling, he confessed that he had found the continent changed.

The Normandie, on which the former President arrived, reached quarantine in the lower bay about midnight and dropped anchor for the night. Hoover came ashore in a cutter. In the tiny lounge he lit a pipe, smiled for photographers, let the pipe go out and began talking.

American Dictatorship Query.

Someone told him first of the passage by the Senate of the Government reorganization bill. He asked whether it had been further amended and when he heard it had not said:

"That's too bad."

He could not see, he added, that the bill contained any suggestion of dictatorship. He, himself, he said, always had favored reorganization of departments.

Then he turned to his European conclusions.

"The first and foremost change that I saw was the revolution from democracies into totalitarian or authoritarian governments or to some degree of dictatorship," he said.

"The second prominent fact is armament. Every Government in Europe is engaged in extending its military forces and in five years expenditures on armament and military forces have increased from four billion dollars a year to eight billion.

"The next factor is the fundamental degeneration in the economic situation in Europe, at least in Government finances and barriers to trade. Outside of one or two Balkan states, there is not a balanced budget in Europe.

All National Debts Increase.

Left and continued below:
29 Mar 1938 clipping from unknown newspaper

All National Debts Increase.

"Every country is getting further into debt and the next vital factor is the development of trade proscription barriers. Partly as the result of military policies, partly as a result of planned economy and

partly as a result of currency, every nation is engaged in movements towards self-sufficiency.

"The next powerful force is just plain fear, partly the cause and partly the result of the movements that I have just mentioned."

Someone asked if he thinks that there will be a general war in three or four years. Hoover said that he saw no immediate prospect of war.

"The spirit that I found everywhere is one of defense, not of offense.

"Statesmen in Europe are working for peace and though war might appear to be likely there is

always a chance to avoid it in spite of the preparations for it.

"Neutrality is about as dynamic in operation as war itself. No one can anticipate what future conditions may be or what tactics might be necessary to maintain neutrality.

Old Balance of Power.

"The League of Nations was constructed on a basis of collective security and as such was an abandonment of the old European idea of the balance of power; however, the idea of maintaining peace by economic force is certainly dead. I have the impression that the present rearmament is more likely to mean a readjustment of the balance of power than anything else."

He declined to speak of his conversations with Hitler and other European leaders. He wound up the interview with this:

"The only problem in Europe that is not acute is the parking problem. They have plenty of space for cars."

Paul Smith, general manager of the San Francisco Chronicle, and Perrin Galpin, Vice President of the Belgian Educational Foundation, his traveling companions, accompanied Hoover ashore.

28 Nov 1939 letter from Charles Duncan to Clare Henderson

266 CERRITOS AVENUE
Long Beach, California
November 28, 1939

Dear Clare:

Your letter of Dec. 15, 1938, as you surmised, did not reach me until after Christmas -- but it was pretty close -- it came Dec. 28th. Thanks for the good wishes and the hope for steady and congenial employment for the second generation during 1939. All has been well with us and both Charles, jr. and our son-in-law Donald have had good and congenial employment throughout the year.

No, I do not have a piano accompanist for my violin playing, and I regret to say that George has discontinued further playing on the violin. We have an old upright piano in this flat, owned by a woman we have never seen or even heard from. Apparently she is willing to let it remain here, without making any charge, and we are very glad to have it.

Inclosed with this letter you will find a few more old postage stamps; all pertain to the United States except two -- one from Venezuela, the other from the Dutch island in the West Indies named Curacao. The person who used the two latter stamps is the son of a couple who live in one of the flats of this building, a Mr. and Mrs. Becker. Their son was recently sent by the Standard Oil Co. to Aruba, another small Dutch island, about 40 miles west of Curacao and 25 miles north of Venezuela, with the expectation he will remain there for two or three years; his young wife was permitted to join him a month ago. The oil company extract the crude oil from wells in Venezuela but have built refineries in Aruba, which is of coral formation. It seems there is quite an all-American colony on the island, all the men of which are employees of the oil company. Living conditions are made as pleasant as possible for them. I don't properly understand why Standard Oil decided to erect refineries on Aruba, but there seems to be a thought that they trust the Dutch Government more than they do the Venezuelan officials; so if the latter should ever move to confiscate their holdings, at least they could not touch the refineries. The confiscations of foreign holdings by the Mexican authorities in recent years are a warning to everybody. Incidentally you may have read five or six weeks ago that King Ibn Saud of Arabia granted a monopoly on oil to the Standard Oil Co. The Japanese authorities had been bidding for this, but his Majesty stated without any reservation that he did not trust them, even although they had offered six times as much as the American company. Evidently the King knows his Japanese!

For various reasons trade between our port and Manila has been increasing lately; in fact the month of October showed that ten per cent of exports from this port went to Manila. In the past Japanese cities have been in the lead with cities in Europe occasionally jumping ahead. It seems to be clearly established now that if the United States should really break loose from the Philippine Islands in 1946, as contemplated by existing law, Japan would quickly move in there. As that time draws nearer it develops that the Filipinos do now want any such thing to happen; so what the final outcome will be I do not know. I verily believe that Japanese government is better than Chinese government, but unfortunately the ~~R~~ Japs have little conscience and want to run all competitors off the field.

In the small envelope containing the stamps you will also find a newspaper clipping relating to the interesting find of some old cannon from a British man-o'-war wrecked off the coast of Florida 300 years ago.

continued

In the city of Los Angeles there was discovered a few days ago the fossilized remains of a giant prehistoric animal some 25 or 30 feet below the surface. It proved to be along the lines of a type of elephant. In previous letters I have probably made reference to the tar pits of La Brea (now a part of Los Angeles), from whence literally hundreds of skeletons of prehistoric animals and birds have been recovered and are now set up in museums. The evidence is now overwhelming that many giant animals formerly ranged over this part of the continent.

I noted a few months ago that the Lyceum theatre in London was being pulled down. A famous place! I saw Irving and Ellen Terry there two or three times; also her son Gordon Craig, and Sir George Bancroft who played opposite Irving in *The Dead Heart*, a story of the French Revolution. Also saw William Terriss there once -- at least I think I did, but can't be sure now -- but do remember that Irving engaged him to play Henry VIII shortly before Terriss was killed.

Our President, Mr. Roosevelt, is still preserving silence regarding a third term. He has but one year more to run on his present term. The indications are that he can have it if he wants it. Considering his ailment it is truly wonderful the manner in which he has carried on so well for seven years. At conferences with the press he has a happy knack of parrying ~~existix~~ adroitly all questions he does not wish to answer, and laughing ^{them} it off.

The airplane industry is literally booming in the United States now. Besides our own commercial domestic needs, the U.S. Army and Navy have been placing large orders for planes for some time. Even Germany knows that France and England are getting all the planes they can from us, and on top of that ~~even~~ the Neutrals are placing substantial orders with our manufacturers.

Charles, jr., remains in the airplane industry as a welder; he got another raise on Nov. 15th, which makes his pay now 95 cents per hour. He and his little family are getting along famously. Agnes is expecting the stork in about a couple of months. She and her husband Donald now live in Los Angeles about 24 miles away from our house. Don still works for the same hardware and building supply company but was transferred to their Los Angeles branch six months ago. George is fine; is now a little over 14 years of age; likes to work with tools and make things; also likes to make innumerable sketches which he dashes off with rapidity; gets a good deal of enjoyment out of his boy-scout activities but is indifferent with regard to working for honors (we spell it that way here, you know). Aunt Sadie (Fan's sister) has been on the road selling since last April but will be back here in Long Beach in two days' time. Fan and I are well and send you all much love.

Good by.

Charles

13 Jul 1944 letter from Charles Duncan to Clara Henderson

266 CERRITOS AVENUE

Long Beach 2, California

July 13, 1944

My dear Clara:

Looking back through past correspondence it appears that my last previous letter was dated 30 Nov., 1943. This you received on Jan. 30, 1944. While it was in transit you wrote to me on 16 Dec., 1943 a letter which I received on Jan. 10, 1944, and acknowledged receipt by postcard the same date - remarkably good time. Before proceeding further I am now going to read through again that letter to see if it calls for any comments.

Well, first of all, good wishes for 1944 are certainly being realized. The forces of evil are fast going down under the omnipotence of Good, and with the rapid progress now ~~being~~ being made in Europe, to say nothing of the splendid work now going on in the South Pacific, the prognostications made for a cessation of hostilities this year are well founded. Re your remark that "Free education for everybody is advocated. The leaving age to be raised. Secondary education to be extended." These things became an accomplished fact several years ago in the USA, in spite of which, however, there still remain a good many ~~illiterates~~ illiterates and others, particularly in isolated areas, who have had but scant education. Congratulations to Rose's son John, the new town clerk of Romford. That's an enviable post especially for one still in his twenties. I remember when Mr. Sharland was town clerk of Gravesend, a position he held for something like thirty years. And I am sorry for Leo's son Jock, a prisoner of war at Singapore. Let's try and not think of the treatment he may have been receiving. Thanks for the etching of Polperro by Ralph Elvidge; it's good. Like the old man you referred to, who tends Ralph's garden, I too remember when the windmill was on the hill and the bear pit at Rosherville. Sorry to hear of the removal of those grand old elm trees. Speaking of Kate and Walter Grose and their passing on within a few weeks of each other, reminds me that I was old enough to remember when Aunt Kate went to Japan to be housekeeper at some large European hotel in one of the Jap cities for about two years. 'Twas on the trip out and again on the voyage back home that she met Mr. Grose. After returning to England she lived with Aunt Bates and assisted her in the home and in the shop.

Three days ago (July 10th) I received your long, newsy letter of May 26, 1944, mailed on May 31st and duly opened and examined by the Censor who, apparently, found nothing requiring deletion. Am glad you liked the copy of LIFE with its pictures of the Houses of Parliament. Thanks for the information regarding age of No. 3, Bronte Villas and the fact that the six houses comprising the group were among the first of the brick, cement-faced buildings in the town. Re remark about Rose still having the occasional aid of a maid - I imagine that the question of maid service is much the same in England as in the USA, due to so many women now being employed in National Service, military and civil. Yes, I remember Meopham Green pretty well and the cricket matches that we members of St. Andrews Cricket Club used to play with the Meopham team, which we could never beat, partly because that left-hander Charlie Coombs was above our class; but the last match we played there before I left England, I captained our team that day and knowing Coombs fondness and dexterity in hitting balls to Leg, placed more than the usual number of fielders in that part of the field, and with Alec Mann bowling and pitching him some nice balls good to hit, we succeeded in getting him to raise one in the right direction so that it fell

continued

~~xxxxxx~~

nicely into my hands and the batter was OUT. ~~XXXXXXX~~ We lost that match, it is true, but only by either one or two runs. In that last GRAVESEND AND DARTFORD REPORTER which you sent me, I caught the paragraph announcing the death of Charlie Coombs and referring to his excellence as a ~~cricketer~~ cricketer. At the conclusion of our matches at Meopham it was customary for both teams to take dinner together at the village inn; then we would return by wagonette to Gravesend. Your remark that "Silvia is still in charge of Light Dept. at Wigan Infirmary" leaves me rather mystified. Do you mean that she is doing the work of an electrician? Glad to hear of the commendation of Miss Pamela Bridgwater's smart appearance and well groomed pony at the pony Derby you referred to. George took to horseback riding about the time he was 8 years old, and the expense, at that time, was almost negligible; then we went to San Francisco for seven months, and since returning further opportunities for riding have not presented themselves. However Charles and his wife Ruth are both quite interested in riding and have their own horses. You have referred several times to Alice Brown and I am glad to know that she is still around. When I was a boy of about 13 or 13 she gave me a few lessons in banjo playing but shortly after that I got switched on to violin playing and took lessons for about six months with some old German who used to furnish the music, a 3-piece aggregation, on the Pilots' pier during the summer. I didn't get much instruction from the old fellow, for it seemed that soon after I would start my lesson, members of his family and some of his "in laws" would come into the room and chamber music would quickly become the order of the day. Anyhow that was splendid practice for me too. You mentioned the Mr. Fletcher who was several times mayor of Gravesend years ago. I can just remember seeing him. He had a rather long, full beard, and one evening, at a concert which he was to grace with his presence, he came in and sat down a few rows ahead of us. On that occasion he wore an overcoat with a fur collar, one of the first I ever remembered seeing, and it impressed me immensely. I think we were rather distantly related to some of the Fletchers. I can't remember now whether I had heard before of the loss of the "Penelope" on the Anzio beach. Leslie Tulk, of course, I never saw, but his mother was one of my favorite aunts.

CIGARETS. One thing about these two World wars which Fan and I both deprecate is the indiscriminate bestowing of cigarets on soldiers and sailors by Red Cross and other philanthropic organizations. Through this practice many young men (and possibly women also) get started on a pernicious habit that previously they were free of.

NUNS. Almost a year ago I learned from The Army and Navy Journal that three Nuns of the Order of the Marianite Sisters of the Holy Cross had left New York for San Antonio, Texas, to serve as nurses at a military hospital in that State. It is possible that nuns served in military hospitals in the USA during the Civil War (1861 - 1865) because we had no Army or Navy Nurse Corps before about 1899, but since Civil War days I am sure that no nuns were ever on duty as nurses in our military hospitals until the Sisters above referred to went to Texas.

LOST CITY. A newspaper clipping of recent date tells of the discovery in London of portions of old buildings erected subsequent to the Roman occupation, which is interesting. Probably you have read a more extensive article on this subject.

STAMPS. Am inclosing a few more.

WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES. We too have a good many now in the Services and their work is well spoken of. Passing our post office recently I noted on a notice board outside that building a table which

continued

listed their pay and allowances, as follows. The amounts are for the entrance salary. Pay \$50; Food (estimated) \$54; Quarters (estimated value) \$37.50; Total \$141.50. That sounds like a lot of money, but they are expected to buy war bonds, and if they have dependents, to make an allotment to such persons; so that in most cases the actual cash that they lay their hands on is something less than \$50 each month. However, after about three months from date of entry in the service their pay generally increases.

CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES. Quite a number of articles under this category are now becoming difficult to get. A few days ago I was looking for linen nightshirts and socks (or "sox" as it is spelled here). The principal department store in town had no linen nightshirt at all and but a very scant supply of socks. The next store, which specializes in mens' clothing and habdashery, had but one linen nightshirt and no socks. (This refers to mens' wear only.)

The movie people at Hollywood recently filmed "Jane Eyre," with Orson Wells in the leading male role. I saw it and didn't like it. It was well enough acted and Wells' interpretation of his part was good, but the play itself was too gruesome - excessive stress and length was allotted to the part played by the sadist board school member who dominated the running of the charity school where orphans lived through a cruel existence. I don't enjoy such plays.

G.I. BILL OF RIGHTS. This is the name applied to an Act recently passed by Congress and approved by the President which makes provision for certain benefits to which our service men and women will become entitled on returning to civil life. It provides for payment of \$20 per week for not more than one year in cases where the veteran is unable to obtain employment; for hospitalization and medical treatment; for education and training when such was interrupted due to entering one of the military services (including payment for subsistence while undergoing such a course of \$50 per month, and \$75 per month if he has a dependent); for loans for the purchase or construction of homes, farms, and business property; and for employment of veterans. All in all this seems to be a very generous measure - much more so than anything ever enacted before at the close of a war - and it surely is going to run into a lot of money. Another Act passed four or five months ago authorizes payment of a small cash bonus to each veteran upon discharge from the service, the amount varying according to length of service and whether or not the veteran went overseas.

THE FAMILY. Dad, O.K. Mom., the same. Charles, his wife and daughter Lorraine now 6½ years of age, all very well. Lorraine is now very sweet and ladylike. Charles is still in the airplane industry and getting \$400 a month. Agnes and her family are all doing nicely. Don, her husband, is in the ship-building work, making very substantial money; ~~xxx~~ he is now designated as instrument maker, first-class. The group picture (2 copies) herewith inclosed shows Don, Agnes, and their two daughters, Grace Ann and Frances; it also includes (from left to right) George, Fan and myself. The picture was taken about a month ago. My personal preference, at this time, of our three granddaughters is Frances. George was assigned to the Navy, entered on active duty a few days before Christmas, and was then sent up north to a point near the Canadian border for basic training, upon completion of which he then went to San Diego for training in Hospital Corps work, after about two months of which his next assignment was to a Naval Hospital at Corona, about 35 miles east of Long Beach. He is now rated as Hospital Apprentice, 1st class, and his basic pay has been twice raised so that it is now \$66 a month. He is able to drop in and see us twice a month. I am also inclosing a couple of copies of his recent photograph. Adios. With love, Charles

**Newspaper clipping attached to 13 Jul 1944 letter from
Charles Duncan to Clara Henderson**

'Lost City' Found Beneath London Ruins

LONDON.—(INS)—Buried only two or three feet beneath the dusty and grimy bombed basements of the city of London there lies today a "modern" city, with houses complete with central heated bathrooms, sunbathing porticoes, and other up to date "features."

This lost city was built some 12 centuries ago by the rich British merchants who traded with the Gauls, Italians and Spaniards after the fall of the Roman empire, and founded the first great native civilization in England.

British archaeologists have formed a council to help uncover, photograph, measure and record these houses and other remains of the "lost city" before they are swept away forever by excavations for deep modern foundations.

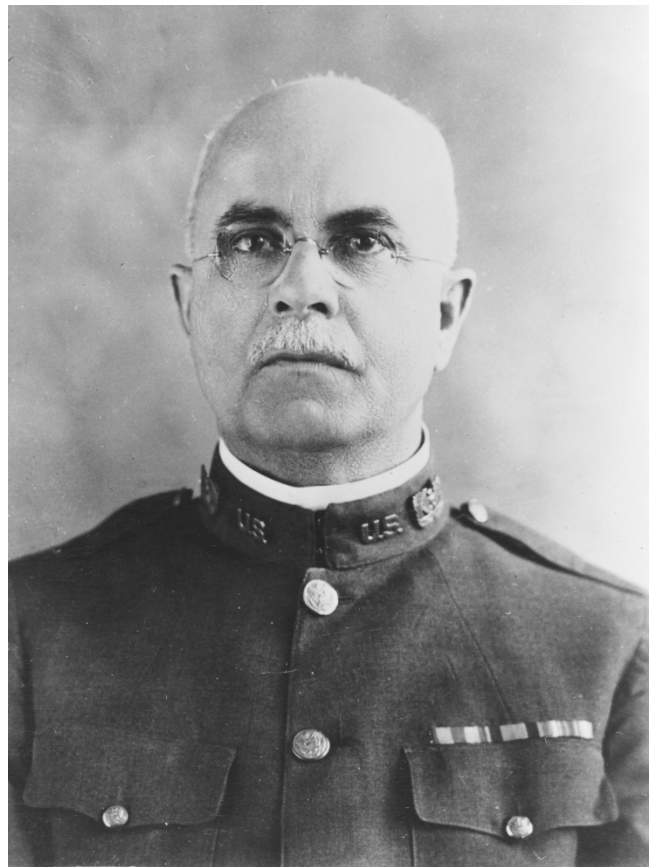
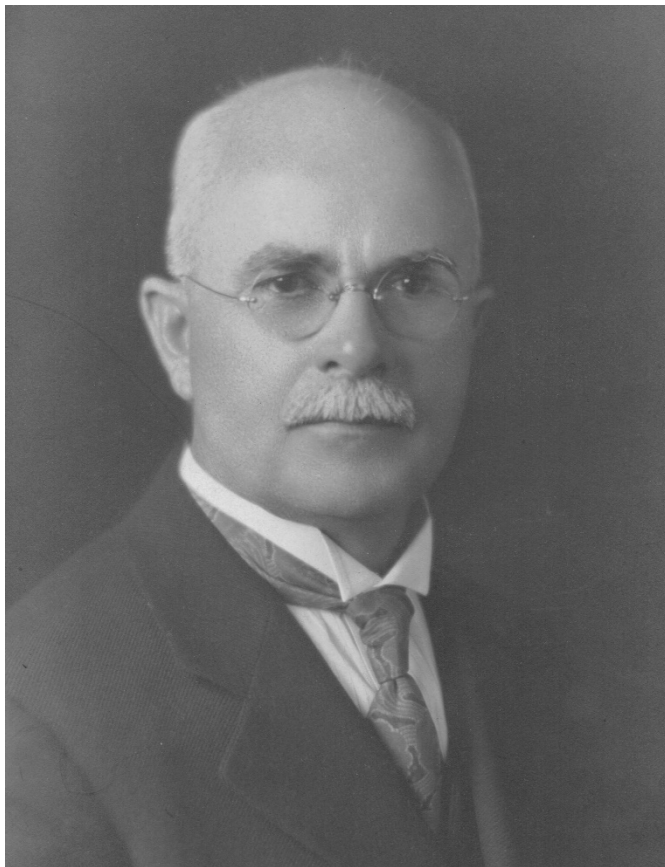
"The most staggering discoveries lie there for the finding," said Miss K. M. Kenyon, secretary of the council of the British Institute of Archaeology, "and our children

will not forgive us if we rob them of these treasures.

"We know practically nothing about the beginnings of London," she said. "The early British city, rich in temple dwellings, markets and civic buildings, adorned with sculptures and other works of art, was built on the Roman remains, and its walls coincide with the Roman walls."

Beneath one of the bombed out streets of London, Miss Kenyon revealed, lies the first British city hall, while nearby are the wattle-and-daub homes of the first British seamen, remote founders of the British merchant navy.

Charles Duncan



Charles' war medals (front)



Charles' war medals (back)

Charles Duncan's funeral card 1947

IN MEMORIAM

Your presence here today is both a tribute to the departed, and a ministry to the living. That these reverent and beautiful services may enshrine in loving memory the character and spirit of the one whom we assemble here to honor is the primary purpose of this memorial. But we are here quite as much to give consolation, comfort and companionship to those who henceforth shall know a loved one only in memory.

That this memory may be one of beauty, of inspiration, and solace, let us join in this last tribute not with a sense of irretrievable loss, but with the thought that out of this experience there shall come something very precious . . . something that shall be to all who meet here today a guiding star and a promise.

"Not the end, but the beginning of a lifetime of beautiful memories."

IN CHARGE OF SERVICES
MOTTELL'S MORTUARY AND CHAPEL
J. J. MOTTELL, INC.
THIRD AT ALAMITOS
LONG BEACH 2, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE 622-86
J. J. MOTTELL, FOUNDER
LON E. PECK, PRESIDENT



A TRUE MEMORIAL

Beyond

It seemeth such a little way to me
Across to that strange country — the Beyond;
And yet, not strange, for it has grown to be
The home of those of whom I am so fond.
They make it seem familiar and most dear,
As journeying friends bring distant regions near.

I cannot make it seem a day to dread,
When from this dear earth I shall journey out
To that still dearer country of the dead,
And join the lost ones, so long dreamed about.
I love this world, yet shall I love to go
And meet the friends who wait for me, I know.

I never stand above a bier and see
The seal of death set on some well loved face
But that I think, "One more to welcome me
When I shall cross the intervening space
Between this land and that one 'over there';
One more to make the strange Beyond seem fair."

And so for me there is no sting in death,
And so the grave has lost its victory.
It is but crossing — with a bated breath
And white, set face — a little strip of sea
To find the loved ones waiting on the shore,
More beautiful, more precious than before.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Memorial Services

For

MR. CHARLES DUNCAN

Born

GRAVESEND, KENT, ENGLAND

Passed on

JANUARY 29, 1947
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Services held at

MOTTELL'S CHAPEL
JANUARY 31, 1947 — 4:00 P.M.

Officiant

GERTRUDE L. JESMER, C. S.

Interment

PRIVATE

SOLOIST: MR. IVAN EDWARDS
ORGANIST: GENE DRISKILL

Charles Duncan's death certificate 1947

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
OFFICE OF
THE STATE REGISTRAR
OF VITAL STATISTICS

This is to certify that
this is a true copy of
the document filed in
this office, if validated
on the reverse.

BEVERLEE A. MYERS, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
AND STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

BY *Mark L. Shultz*
Mark L. Shultz, Chief
VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH

SEP 15 1978

1. FULL NAME **Charles DUNCAN** DISTRICT NO. **1957** REGISTRAR'S NO. **33**

2. PLACE OF DEATH: (A) COUNTY **Los Angeles**
(B) CITY OR TOWN **Ballflower-Lakewood Rural**
(C) NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION **U. S. Naval Hospital**
(D) LENGTH OF STAY: (SPECIFY WHETHER YEARS, MONTHS OR DAYS) **1 da**
IN HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION **1 da** IN THIS COMMUNITY **1 da** IN CALIF. **20 yrs.**
(E) IF FOREIGN BORN, HOW LONG IN THE U. S. A. **54** YEARS

3. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED
(A) STATE **California**
(B) COUNTY **Los Angeles**
(C) CITY OR TOWN **Long Beach**
(D) STREET NO. **266 Cerritos Avenue**

20. DATE OF DEATH MONTH **January** DAY **29** YEAR **1947** HOUR **9** MINUTE **45 AM**

21. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED
THE DECEASED
ON **28 January** 19 **47**
ON **29 January** 19 **47**
THAT I LAST SAW HIM **in** ALIVE
ON **29 January** 19 **47**
AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON THE DATE
AND HOUR STATED ABOVE

22. CORONER'S CERTIFICATE
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I WELD AN
ANATOMICAL EXAMINATION
OF THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND FIND
NO SUCH ACTION THAT DECEASED CAME TO
DEATH ON THE DATE AND HOUR
STATED ABOVE

IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH **Heart Disease,
arteriosclerosis with congestive
xxx heart failure**

OTHER DISEASES **Edema, lung**

MAJOR FINDINGS
OF OPERATIONS

OF AUTOPSY **as above**

23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES, LIST IN THE FOLLOWING
(A) ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, OR PUBLIC
(B) DAYS OF INJURY
(C) WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR
(D) DID INJURY OCCUR IN OR ABOUT HOME, ON FARM, IN INDUSTRIAL PLACE, OR IN
PUBLIC PLACE? SPECIFY TYPE OF PLACE WHILE AT WORK
(E) MEANS OF INJURY

24. PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE **E. F. Kline**
(SPECIFY DESIGNATION) **E. F. KLINE, CAPT, MC, USN**
ADDRESS **Long Beach, Calif.** DATE **1-29-47**

3. (1) IF VETERAN, NAME OF WAR **SPANISH AMERICAN & WORLD WAR I** (2) SOCIAL SECURITY NO. **None**

4. SEX **Male** 5. COLOR OR RACE **White** 6. (A) SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED **Married**

6. (B) NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE **Frances S. Duncan** 6. (C) AGE OF DECEASED AT DEATH **74** YEARS

7. BIRTHDATE OF DECEASED **June 4, 1872**

8. AGE **74** YRS **7** MOS **25** DAYS **IF LESS THAN ONE DAY OLD**

9. BIRTHPLACE **Gravesend, Kent, England**

10. USUAL OCCUPATION **Warrant Officer**

11. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS **U.S. Army**

12. NAME **Charles Duncan**

13. BIRTHPLACE **England**

14. MAIDEN NAME **Anna Craggs Sylvester**

15. BIRTHPLACE **England**

16. (A) INFORMANT **Frances S. Duncan**
(B) ADDRESS **266 Cerritos Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.**

17. (A) CREMATION (B) DATE **Jan. 31, 1947**

18. (A) PLACE **MOTTRELL'S CREMATORY, Long Beach, Calif.**
(B) PLACE **MOTTRELL'S CREMATORY, Long Beach, Calif.**
(C) EMBALMER'S SIGNATURE **John W. Broussard** LICENSE NO. **3077**
(D) FUNERAL DIRECTOR **MOTTRELL'S MORTUARY**
ADDRESS **924 East Third St., Long Beach, Calif.**
BY **Robert A. Reed**

19. (A) DATE PROOF **1-30-47** (B) REGISTERED & FILED **1-30-47**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CERTIFICATE OF DEATH) U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

20743-10d-327

On 12 Dec 1932 Irwin G. Barnett, 860 So. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, California, age 36, Army Field Clerk, Adjutant General's Office, G.H. 2, Chauvmont, France, completed a Pension Claim-Witness for Veteran form. He stated he knew Charles Duncan for the past 15 years and Charles was not married prior to his marriage to Fanny Selina Gee. Charles is a retired Warrant Officer, U.S. Army.

On 3 Jan 1933 Paul B. Harm, 240 Tuckerman St. N.W., Washington, D.C., age 68, and a retired Major, U.S. Army, completed a Pension Claim-Witness for Veteran form. He stated he knew Charles Duncan from Dec 1907-Sep 1913 and to his knowledge Charles was not previously married and is still living together and not divorced from Fanny Selina Duncan nee Gee. Charles is a retired Warrant Officer, U.S. Army.

On 5 Mar 1934 R. R. Martin, 201 E. Hill St., Long Beach, California, age 44, completed a Pension Claim-Witness for Wife stated he knew Fanny was not married prior to her marriage to Charles Duncan. He had known Fanny for 40 years. Charles was a retired Warrant Officer, U.S. Army.

On 10 Mar 1934 W. S. Slade, 729 Freeman Ave., Long Beach, California, age 60, completed the same form stating the same information as above. He has known Frances Duncan for 46 years.

LATER YEARS

A 7 Feb 1928 letter from Long Beach, California, says he has passed a clerks and stenos test and is invited to be interviewed at City Hall around 9 Feb 1928.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography says it was necessary for him to get a job right away after graduation in Jun 1928 due to his family's reduced income after his father's retirement [in Aug 1927]. He said his father hoped to work after retiring from the Army and did briefly work at the Bank of America in Los Angeles before the big depression and stock market crash. His father never found further employment after that.

Silvia Henderson's 9 Feb 1970 letter to Charles and Ruth Duncan included an assortment of clippings and letters that had been mailed to Clare Henderson over the years by her brother, the elder Charles Duncan. They included stories about the 1933 Long Beach earthquake and avoidance of war.

Charles Duncan and Mrs. Fanny S. Duncan signed the guest book when their son Charles Duncan, Jr., married Ruth Lorraine Johnson on 12 Jun 1937 in Long Beach, California.

Frances Duncan's 15 Feb 1947 letter to her son, Charles, said her husband had not been in good health since before Charles, Ruth and I left Inglewood [California] for Kansas. He had been having C.S.

[Christian Science] treatment and he never said what the trouble was. She was busy with R.R. [Christian Science Reading Room] during the holidays, but realized he was not getting a healing. She asked him if he wanted her to stay with him and he said no. She was to be gone until 15 Jan, but he thought she would be finished and be home on 1 Jan. It took a lot of time to wait on him and she was sometimes up all night and day taking care of him. He leaned on her heavily when he walked until they got him a wheelchair. They also got him a hospital bed. Finally he asked to be taken to the Naval Hospital where nurses would care for him as he realized it was too much of a burden for Frances. He died the next day. She and George decided to keep living in their same apartment as they were paying \$25 a month rent which would be hard to find elsewhere. In Sep or Oct 1946 she had made arrangements with Mottell's for all the arrangements to be made for the simplest funeral and cremation with ashes not saved. "George has been a precious child, so staunch & steady and always standing by and I am so grateful that you three children express so much that was fine and gentle in Dad which made him what all agree he was---a gentleman. I am so happy that I had the privilege of being married to him and spending so many happy years with him for he was & is a good man." Sadie is not going to move in with us because it would be too crowded and she is better off where she is. Sadie enjoys a hot dinner with them and this arrangement seems to be working fine.

The California Death Index shows Charles Duncan's birth on 4 Jun 1872 in another country and his death on 29 Jan 1947 in Los Angeles County. His mother's maiden name is Sylvester [Silvester] and his father's surname is Duncan. [His father is John Henry Henderson.]

Charles Duncan's death certificate shows his birth on 4 Jun 1872 in Gravesend and death on 29 Jan 1947 at age 74 years, 7 months and 25 days at the U.S. Naval Hospital at Bellflower, Lakewood Rural, Los Angeles, California. He was cremated on 31 Jan 1947 at Mottell's Crematory, Long Beach, Los Angeles, California. The cause of death was heart disease, arteriosclerosis with congestive heart failure. Other conditions were lung edema. The funeral director was Mottell's Mortuary, 909 E. 3rd St., Long Beach. His parents are Charles Duncan and Anne Craggs Sylvester [John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester], both born in England. His wife is Frances S. Duncan, who was 59 at his death. He had been in the hospital and Bellflower one day. He had lived in California for 20 years and the U.S. for 54 years. He was a veteran of the Spanish American War and WWI. He had no Social Security number. His usual occupation was warrant officer in the U.S. Army. The informant was his wife Frances S. Duncan of 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, which was also his address.

Charles Duncan's funeral card shows his birth in Gravesend, Kent, England, and his death on 29 Jan 1947 in Long Beach, California. Services were held at Mottell's Chapel, Long Beach, on 31 Jan 1947. Interment was private.

Frances Duncan's 4 May 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said she is sending them a large flag which the government sent to cover Dad's casket at the funeral. It is too large for her and she has no suitable place to put a pole large enough to hold it. She thought Charles could put it on a pole and fly it "in honor of a very beloved and precious Dad of whom there was none better. Guess you may have wondered why I send my letters air mail. Dad had me get airmail stamps just after you went back there. I guess it made him feel that you were not so far away when he could send his letters quickly, so I am just using them for the same reason. Love, Mom"

Charles Duncan married **Frances "Fanny" Selina Gee**, daughter of George William Gee and Adeline Lavina Carter, on 30 Jul 1909 in Albion, Boone, Nebraska, USA. Fanny was born on 4 Feb 1888 in Akron (Bonanza Precinct), Boone, Nebraska, USA. She died on 7 Apr 1957 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA. *For more information about Fanny's family, see the Gee section in another volume.*

Frances Selina Gee's delayed birth certificate shows her birth on 4 Feb 1888 in the Bonanza Precinct, Boone County, Nebraska. Her parents are George William Gee, born in 1846 in Wellney [Welney], England, and Adeline Lavina Carter, born in 1884 in New York State. The certificate is dated 28 Nov 1942 by a Boone County, Nebraska, judge, filed on 30 Nov 1942, and dated 1 Dec 1942 by the state registrar. It states, "Affidavit of James A. Gee of Los Angeles Co., California, brother, age 68 years; Family Bible Record entered shortly after birth; School Census Record for the year 1901 from School Dist., No.1 of Boone Co., Nebraska. All evidence gives Feb. 4, 1888 as the birth date of Frances Selina Gee, now Frances Selina Duncan." The attendant at her birth was Mrs. Mary Rust, deceased.



The Boone County, Nebraska, School Census shows the following about Frances Gee:

- 1894 She is 6.
- 1895 She is 7.
- 1896 She is 8.
- 1897 She is 9.
- 1901 She is 13 and born on 4 Feb 1888 in Boone County, Nebraska.
- 1905 She is 17 and born on 4 Feb 1888 at Akron [unincorporated community in Boone County].

- 1906 She is 18 and born on 4 Feb 1888 in Albion.
1907 She is 19 and born on 4 Feb 1888 in Albion, Nebraska.
1908 She is 20 and born on 4 Feb 1888 in Albion.

The 1900 census of Albion, Nebraska, shows Fannie Gee, 12, at school, born in Nebraska in Feb 1887 [1888], living at 192 6th St. with her parents George and Adalina [Adeline] Gee and her siblings.

The *Albion Weekly News* [Nebraska] includes these items about Fannie Gee in the issues dated:

- 9 Feb 1900 She had her 12th birthday party last Sat. on 3 Feb at her home in Hawk's addition & had many guests.
23 Aug 1901 She visited her brothers Jim and George at Elgin.
22 May 1903 She is an 8th grade graduate.
7 Oct 1904 She is very sick with appendicitis & inflammation for over a week.
2 May 1908 She is visited by G. W. Gee in Omaha and likes it fine.
28 Nov 1908 She got called to Columbus and then went home to Albion for Thanksgiving. She is a nurse in Omaha and enjoying it.

The 1909 *Omaha City Directory* shows Fannie Gee living at Wise Memorial Hospital, 24th Ave. SW corner Harney, where she is an assistant. [My unsourced notes show she lived at the nurses' home at 2455 Harney in 1909 and the hospital was at 406 S. 24th Ave.]

The *Albion Argus* includes these excerpts about Fannie Gee:

- 2 Jan 1909 George Gee and his wife went to Omaha Monday morning. Fannie has been troubled for some time with appendicitis, so it was thought best to have an operation. The parents felt like they would rather go down to see how she would come out. They returned saying she got along nicely.
16 Jan 1909 Fannie Gee came home from Omaha Saturday. She said she was feeling quite well. Only the wound from the operation was a little sore yet, so that she could not work.
30 Jan 1909 Miss Fannie Gee went to Genoa Monday to visit her sister Sarah and other friends for a few days.
10 Apr 1909 Fannie Gee came up from Omaha Monday to assist in caring for her sister-in-law.

The *Albion Weekly News* includes these items about Fannie Gee:

- 8 Apr 1909 She came up from Omaha on Monday to visit her folks.
27 May 1909 She went to Omaha on Monday for a visit with friends.
3 Jun 1909 She returned home from Omaha with Agnes [her sister].

Charles Duncan's biography says his mother Frances Gee met her future husband while she was a nurse at Wise Memorial Hospital in Omaha and Charles Duncan was there with appendicitis [inflammation of lungs]. After they married, they immediately went to the Philippine Islands. She did not complete her nursing training. She used to get sentimental hearing "Aloha Oe" because it reminded her of her trips in and out of Honolulu, where the song is sung at the docks for arriving and departing passenger ships.

The Boone County, Nebraska, Probate Records for George William Gee show his daughter Frances lives in the P.I. in Apr 1912 and she is 23.

The Boone County, Nebraska, Land Records show Charles Duncan is in Manila, P.I. in 1912. In Oct 1912 Frances is probably staying in Albion. In Jan 1913, she sells land.

The January 2010 Vol. 16, No. 3 issue of the Boone-Nance County Genealogical Society "The Scout" includes this letter to the News in their 15 Jul 1915 issue from Mrs. Max Taylor (Agnes Gee):
"Whittier, Calif., July 8, 1915

Dear News Folks:

Just a little letter this time to tell you to change my News to 61 7th Ave., San Francisco, until after Aug. 12th, as I am going up Sunday to visit my folks there and see the big exposition. Mr. Taylor gets

seventeen days vacation beginning July 27th, when he will join us in Frisco, and we expect to see it all from A to Z."....."Mother is with Sadie and Fanny in San Francisco and is in good health. She is coming back with us, when we return home."

A 10 May 1928 letter written by Fanny to her mother refers to Jim living nearby and having received some silk her mother had mailed her. She says Sade was here to lunch yesterday and she had a letter from Rose and said Susie was expecting to move down in a few days. "She & Ed rented a house at Eagle Rock." Fanny said she had a letter from Marguerite saying perhaps she would come to California this summer. Agnes and Charles are busy with school work. Attached to the letter is a typed note which was perhaps written by Rosa Breedlove Hitchman and says "Grandma apparently was visiting at Uncle Jim & Aunt Minnie in Whittier when this was written to her."

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography say, "I taught Mother to drive and she learned quickly, being kind of mechanically inclined. I think I got that from her."

A 5 Feb 1947 letter from the Veteran's Administration Reg. Office, 1380 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles, California, to Frances Selina Duncan, 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, California, is regarding death benefits in connection with her husband Charles Duncan's death.

Frances Duncan's 15 Feb 1947 letter to her son Charles said she is going to serve at the R.R. [Christian Science Reading Room] tomorrow morning. She is also going to Agnes' [house] Saturday morning as she is giving a birthday party for Gay and she wants Frances to help her. Frances may stay all night.

Frances Duncan's 7 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said her sister Sadie has seen Florence Johnson [Ruth Duncan's mother] lately and Florence told her about selling their house and moving. Frances hasn't seen them yet as she has been busy at the R.R. She loves to keep busy. Tomorrow George is driving Frances to La Habra and she is going to Whittier with Agnes and Don in the evening to hear a violin concert by Rubinoff. Then Agnes will bring her home the next morning in time for her to give George his dinner and get him off to work. He is working swing shift. "Aunt Mary and Uncle Pete have written for Sadie and I to come up to Snohomish for the last of June as they are going to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary, but I can't tell whether we can go or not because around the 21st of June Agnes is expecting to be confined and I have promised to go and stay with the children while she is at the hospital. Sadie says she will not go unless I can so there we are. I would love to go as I have always wanted to see Washington and Oregon, and if it is right Love will prepare the way, so I shall just wait and see."

Agnes Lohr's 17 Apr 1947 birthday card to her brother Charles said Frances was with them on 8 Apr and they took her to Whittier to hear Rubinoff play his violin that night at the Whittier Union High School Auditorium and it was wonderful. Frances stayed overnight and went home the next day.

Frances is to receive a \$40 pension, but hasn't received it yet [following the death of her husband in Jan.] Agnes knows Frances needs more money, but knows she won't ask for any. Agnes has given her a little and plans to give more in the future in little ways that Frances won't object to. Agnes thinks Sadie will move in with her mother in the downstairs apartment and George and his new wife will move into Sadie's upstairs apartment. Agnes suggested that she and Don build a little one-room house with a kitchenette and bath for her on the back of their lot, but Frances was undecided about what to do or where to live.

An undated Christmas card by Frances Duncan to her son Charles says, "A plane is just going overhead wished it was bringing me to spend Christmas with you. Aunt Mary & Uncle Pete are here and we are all going over to spend Christmas with Agnes and Don's. Was elected to the Board of Directors of the church again Friday night so will have plenty to do for a while." [This would have been written between 1947-1951, since it was signed by her, without her husband who died in Jan 1947, and mentioned Christmas at the home of daughter Agnes, who died in Feb 1952.]

Frances Selina Gee (1888-1957)



This is probably Frances Selina Gee although at least one copy of this photo was labeled Sarah Gee (Sadie).



Frances Selina Duncan, nee Gee, (1888-1957)



Frances Duncan shown above with a Lohr granddaughter in about 1944



**Frances with her son Charles, Jr.,
in Long Beach, Jun 1951**

**Frances Duncan's
Christmas card to her son
Charles in about 1947-1951**

Merry Christmas
from Mom to
Charles Jr.



a plane is just going
overhead wished it was
bringing me to spend Christ-
mas with you.

Aunt Mary & Uncle Pete are
here and we are all going
over to spend Christmas
with Agnes and Don's.

Was elected to the Board
of Directors of the church
again Friday night so will
have plenty to do for a while

WITH BEST WISHES FOR A

Merry Christmas

AND A VERY

Happy New Year



Mom

May 9, 1949

Thanks Ruth, dear for your nice letter mailed May 5th as I had been hoping someone would write and here I got two nice letters and a card from the Lewises who have been on a 21 day trip down to Mexico. They reach home Wednesday May 11th. They were over and had Easter dinner with us just before they left for this trip.

How nice it is to have enough so that one can go places when they want to. I know I would be a regular globe-trotter if I was able for I love to go places and see people so its probably a good thing I don't have. but I would enjoy it anyhow. It was interesting to hear about your garden and I know there are so many things to keep one busy that I feel very grateful to you for

Frances Duncan's 9 May 1949 letter to Ruth Duncan, continued on next page



Front and back of
Frances Duncan's 9 May 1949
letter to Ruth Duncan

writing as often as you do. I am
so proud of all of you and your
accomplishments because I am
sure you and Lorraine give a
great deal of pleasure with your
music and of course I think Charles
is the cleverest boy and I am
so glad that you are my family for
I didn't give up my boy but ac-
quired a two precious girls and
I love you all very much. Take a
deep breath of lilacs for me and
eat a green onion for me from
your garden. Love Mom. 5/9/49.

10 L 129 COPYRIGHT
Browne

Frances' 4 May 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said she enjoys her job a lot. It is very interesting and takes her full time. She solicits retail merchants for advertisement in the Monitor [*Christian Science Monitor*] and as she knew nothing about advertising, she had to learn from the ground up. She gets 15% of all the advertising done for Long Beach whether she gets it or not. It requires lots of talking, walking and prayer. A car would be a boon, but that will come at the right time if she is patient. She earns about \$80 a month and with her \$48 pension, she hopes she can manage. When George and Jean lived with her, he paid the rent and utilities. She helped with the food. On 10 Apr 1948 George and Jean moved into a nearby apartment by themselves at her request because with his work, they could not have a regular schedule for doing things at home and with her work, she had to have more time to herself. George and Jean slept in the living room, so that was difficult as he had to sleep during the day when he worked nights.

In the *Dad Share Your Life with Me* book, Charles wrote in 1996 and 1997 that after his father died, his mother worked for a while selling advertising for the *Christian Science Monitor*.

In my 3 Feb 2005 conversation with my father, he said his mother read Christian Science literature, did not play the piano, but her husband did. She did not work after she married [except as a widow when she briefly sold advertising], but volunteered at the Christian Science Reading Room.

Frances' 10 Oct 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine told of her trip to visit them and her flight from Hutchinson, Kansas, to Los Angeles which included brief stops in Wichita, Kansas; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Amarillo, Texas; Winslow, Arizona; and Phoenix, Arizona, with two meals served! [What a contrast to flying from Kansas to California these days!] George and Sadie picked her up and drove her home at 2:00 a.m. after flying all day.

Clare Henderson's 13 Mar 1950 letter to Ruth Duncan said she is sorry to hear that Frances has an inadequate pension and hopes she will find a happy solution to her problems. Clare said she is deeply grateful she doesn't have to pay any rent.

Sade Johnson's letter written in about 1951 to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said Frances is unable to write and cannot walk without help. Frances is also trying to get used to her new teeth. George takes her to the dentist as she can't go alone. Sade asks Charles and Ruth to write to Frances, but to avoid mentioning her disabilities as it would disturb her. Sade thinks Frances will improve after she rests up. Sade wrote that she and Frances both thank Charles and Ruth for the check they sent. [As I recall, they sent them a monthly \$70 check for several years.]

Clare Henderson's 26 Jun 1951 letter to Ruth Duncan said she hoped Ruth and family will have an enjoyable trip to California and that they will find Fan in better health. She asked Ruth to give Fan her love and good wishes. She asked whether her address is still the same now that her sister is with her.

Clare Henderson's 30 Apr 1952 letter to Ruth Duncan thanked Ruth for news of Fanny as she hadn't heard from her for a long time and thought she must be ill. She was always so kind. Clare's 18 Dec 1952 letter to Ruth said she was sorry to hear about Fanny's bad health.

Dr. F. Harriman Jones' 31 Aug 1953 letter from his Long Beach office to Charles Duncan, Jr., said he first saw Frances on 20 Jun 1953 with a history of having fallen in the home and injuring her left hip. X-rays showed a fracture in this area. In talking to Mrs. Johnson [her sister Sade] and son George, they told him Frances had apparently had some mild strokes in the past few months which affected her eyesight and caused her to fall. She can see only light and dark. Since the surgery on her hip, it has been healing and her general condition is improving. However, he doubts she will completely recover from the two or three strokes she has had and thinks she may have future strokes. Dr. Jones said Mrs. Johnson is taking very excellent care of Frances.

Clare Henderson's 9 Dec 1953 letter to Ruth Duncan said she wrote to Fanny after she had received Ruth's letter about Fanny's accident. Clare hopes Fanny is better.



Frances Duncan volunteered at the Christian Science Reading Room. After her husband's death, she worked for a while selling advertising for the *Christian Science Monitor*. Here she is celebrating her birthday with the Long Beach Advertising Club in Feb 1949.

Frances Selina Duncan's death certificate 1957

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

OFFICE OF
THE STATE REGISTRAR
OF VITAL STATISTICS

This is to certify that
this is a true copy of
the document filed in
this office, if validated
on the reverse.

BEVERLEE A. MYERS, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
AND STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

BY *Mark L. Shultz*
Mark L. Shultz, Chief
VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH

SEP 19 1978

STATE 57-027875		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		REGISTRATION DISTRICT NO. 7052	REGISTRAR'S NUMBER 790
1. NAME OF DECEASED FRANCES SELINA DUNCAN		2. DATE OF DEATH April 7, 1957		28. HOUR 12:40A	
3. SEX Female		4. COLOR OR RACE White		5. AGE 67	
6. USUAL OCCUPATION Home Maker		7. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Own Home		8. PLACE OF BIRTH Nebraska	
9. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER George William Lee - England		10. MOTHER'S NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Adeline L. Carter - N.Y.		11. NAME OF PRESENT SPOUSE IF MARRIED	
12. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? No		13. CITY OR TOWN Long Beach		14. LENGTH OF STAY IN THIS CITY OR TOWN 22 years	
15. COUNTY Los Angeles		16. FULL NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION HARRIMAN JONES CLINIC HOSPITAL		17. ADDRESS 211 Cherry Avenue	
18. STATE California		19. COUNTY Los Angeles		20. CITY OR TOWN Long Beach	
21. CORONER None		22. DATE Apr. 10, 1957		23. SIGNATURE OF CORONER <i>Mark L. Shultz</i>	
24. PHYSICIAN'S OR CORONER'S CERTIFICATION None		25. DATE Apr. 10, 1957		26. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN <i>Mark L. Shultz</i>	
27. FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND REGISTRAR MOTTELL'S & PEEK MORTUARY		28. DATE Apr. 10, 1957		29. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR <i>Mark L. Shultz</i>	
30. CAUSE OF DEATH 331 THIS DOES NOT BEAR THE MARK OF DYING SUCH AS HEART FAILURE, ASTHMA, ETC.		31. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH Arteriosclerosis		32. ANTECEDENT CAUSES Arteriosclerosis, Hypertension, Edema, fatigue	
33. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS Arteriosclerosis, Hypertension, Edema, fatigue		34. DATE OF OPERATION None		35. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION Arteriosclerosis, Hypertension, Edema, fatigue	
36. DEATH DUE TO EXTERNAL VIOLENCE None		37. PLACE OF INJURY None		38. LOCATION None	

Frances Selina Duncan's funeral card 1957

IN MEMORIAM

Your presence here today is both a tribute to the departed, and a ministry to the living. That these reverent and beautiful services may enshrine in loving memory the character and spirit of the one whom we assemble here to honor is the primary purpose of this memorial. But we are here quite as much to give consolation, comfort and companionship to those who henceforth shall know a loved one only in memory.

That this memory may be one of beauty, of inspiration, and solace, let us join in this last tribute not with a sense of irretrievable loss, but with the thought that out of this experience there shall come something very precious . . . something that shall be to all who meet here today a guiding star and a promise.

"He is not lost who finds the light of sun and stars and God."

IN CHARGE OF SERVICES
MOTTELL'S AND PEEK MORTUARIES
THIRD AND ALAMITOS, LONG BEACH
GRAND AVE. AND WILTON, LONG BEACH
7801 BOLSA, MIDWAY CITY



A True Memorial

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for
Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff
they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my
head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord for ever.*

—Twenty-third Psalm



Memorial Services

For
MRS. FRANCES SELINA DUNCAN

Born
NEBRASKA

Passed on
APRIL 7, 1957

Services held at
MOTTELL'S AND PEEK CHAPEL
APRIL 10, 1957 — 10:00 A.M.

Officiant
MRS. HAZEL FULKERSON, C.S.

Interment
PRIVATE

SOLOIST: JOE BJORND AHL
ORGANIST: GENE DRISKILL

Florence Johnson's 9 May 1954 letter to Ruth, Charles and Lorraine Duncan said she and her husband Clint visited Frances and Sadie. Because of Frances' elimination problems, Sadie has to do laundry two or three times a day. Florence's 28 May 1954 letter said Sadie told her and Clint that Frances can only feed herself with her left hand. Another letter from Florence to the Duncans written on 8 Sep 1954 said she and Clint visited Frances and Sadie. Florence doesn't think Frances is any better. Sadie said Frances' spine at the bottom is out of line due to lying on the same side all the time. Florence suggested a chiropractor might help, but Sadie didn't seem interested. Florence wished they would do something as it's terrible to be in such a condition.

Florence Johnson's 10 Sep 1955 letter to Ruth, Charles and Lorraine Duncan said she and Clint visited Frances who was sitting up on the side of the bed with her bed chair and her feet on a box. She had good color, but she didn't talk, except to say "yes" or "no". She didn't look at all comfortable and Florence said she can't get her mind off of her, poor thing. Frances' sister Sadie told them that Frances can hardly see at all, but Florence said her eyes looked good and not blurry.

Florence Johnson's Wednesday 29 Feb 1956 diary entry states she and her husband, Clint, visited Frances Duncan and her sister Sadie. Frances' condition is about the same.

Florence Johnson's 1 Mar 1956 letter to Ruth, Charles and Lorraine Duncan said she and Clint visited Frances and Sadie who were very happy to see them. Florence showed Sadie some pictures, but she didn't make any attempt to show them to Frances. "I guess she admits to herself anyway that she can't see." Frances doesn't talk at all except to say "yes" or "no". Sadie said they get Frances up in a chair with casters and push her into the living room and put her in a more comfortable chair.

George Duncan's 7 Apr 1957 telegram to Charles Duncan says, "Mom returned clinic Saturday passed on Sunday morning. Will arrange services. George Duncan."

The California Death Index shows Frances Selina Duncan's birth on 4 Feb 1890 in Nebraska and her death on 7 April 1957 in Los Angeles. Her mother's maiden name is Carter and her father's surname is Lee. [Note her birthdate is 4 Feb 1888 and her father's surname is Gee.]

Frances Selina Duncan's death certificate shows her death at age 67 [69] on 7 Apr 1957 at Harriman Jones Clinic Hospital, Long Beach, Los Angeles, California. She died of arteriosclerosis, congestive heart failure and pulmonary edema. She was a widow and home maker whose address was 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, where she had lived for 22 years. She was born on 4 Feb 1890 [1888] in Nebraska and was a U.S. citizen. Her parents are George William Lee [Gee], born in England, and Adaline L. Carter, born in New York. The informant was George H. [G.] Duncan of 5888 Pageantry, Long Beach. Her body was cremated on 10 Apr 1957 at Mottell's & Peek Crematory.

Mrs. Frances Selina Duncan's funeral card shows she was born in Nebraska and died on 7 Apr 1957. Services were held at 10:00 a.m. on 10 Apr 1957 at Mottell's and Peek Chapel. The officiant was Mrs. Hazel Fulkerson, C.S. The interment was private.

On 1 May 1957 George G. Duncan wrote a rough draft letter to someone requesting that they discontinue sending widow's pension checks to his mother Frances Selina Duncan. Her residence was 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, California, and she died on 7 Apr 1957. Her husband was Charles Duncan, a veteran of the Spanish American War. She did not remarry after Charles died.

Charles Duncan aka Vernon Henry Henderson and Frances Duncan had the following children:
(The + indicates the child had children.)

- + M i. **Charles Duncan, Jr.**, was born on 22 Apr 1910. He died on 18 Nov 2005.
- + F ii. **Agnes Marguerite Duncan** was born on 22 Oct 1911. She died on 2 Feb 1952.
- + M iii. **George Gee Duncan** was born on 26 Sep 1925. He died on 9 Jul 1994.

- i. **Charles Duncan, Jr.**, (Vernon Henry Henderson aka Charles Duncan, John Henry Henderson) was born on 22 Apr 1910 in Manila, Philippine Islands. He died on 18 Nov 2005 in Rancho Mirage, Riverside, California. He was buried in Ellinwood, Barton, Kansas.

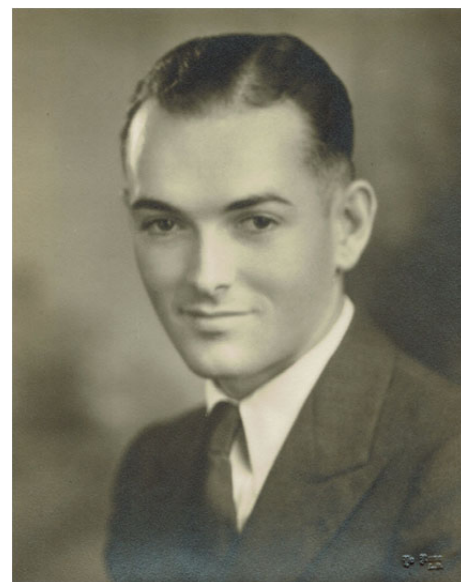
Charles Duncan's birth certificate shows his birth on 22 Apr 1910 at Division Hospital, Manila, Philippine Islands. His nationality was American and his parents are Charles Duncan, 37, Clerk (A.G.O., H.P.D.), born in England, and Fanny S. Gee, 22, born in Albany [Albion], Nebraska, mother of 1 child. He was delivered by a Captain of U.S. Medical Corps.

Excerpts from Charles Duncan, Jr.'s
Dad Share Your Life with Me book

In the *Dad Share Your Life with Me* book, Charles wrote in 1996 and 1997 that his parents called him "Son" until they moved to Omaha and he asked them to drop it, which they did. He remembers having his ring fingers frost bitten once while carrying his books to high school in Omaha. He used to sled down hills in Omaha on a Flexible Flyer sled and taught himself to skate on a small patch of ice near their house. He remembers his feet getting cold and the clamp coming off causing spills and skinning his knees. He smashed a finger in high school gym class while catching a pitched baseball. He had a trimester of swimming in high school in Long Beach, but didn't learn much. Mostly he learned to swim by paddling around in a pool at the Studio Lodge on Chuckwalla Dr. in Palm Springs in his later years. He also went swimming in the surf in Long Beach and in their own pools in Indian Wells.

A favorite memory he had of his father was his father teaching him to row a boat in Strawberry Lake in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. He also enjoyed playing chess with his father. His father used to play the piano and Charles and Agnes would sing along. Charles' biggest physical problem he had to deal with was motion sickness. [He had this problem all his life.] When he went by boat from San Francisco to Los Angeles, he was sick most of the way. His first girlfriend was Juanita Myers in Omaha. Some of his favorite TV shows were *The Ed Sullivan Show*, Jackie Gleason in *The Honeymooners*, and *The Gary Moore Show*. One of his favorite Bible verses was "Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord" with vibrato. A favorite pastime was sailboating. As a boy he was curious about nearly everything. His favorite school subjects were any of the shop classes. His least favorite subjects were civics and English. The biggest problem he had in high school was making up the credits he lost in changing from Omaha to Long Beach. He had no favorite pets as they were all special to him. [The complete list is shown in another section.]

Charles usually spent his Sundays as a boy going to Sunday School. His favorite radio programs were *Amos & Andy* and *The Lone Ranger*. His favorite movie as a boy was any Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., film. His all-time favorite movie was *The Three Musketeers* with Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., who was his favorite movie star because he typified adventure. One of his scariest moments was when Lon Chaney removed his mask in the movie *Phantom of the Opera*. His favorite book as a child was the *Three Musketeers* by Dumas. His all-time favorite book was *20 Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne. His favorite singing group or band was the Guy Lombardo band. As a youth he danced the waltz and fox trot. He remembered smoking cigarettes a few times, but they made him sick, so he quit. A household chore he used to do as a boy was setting the table for dinner with his sister Agnes. His best school chums were Roy Wilson and Milton Myersfeld in San Francisco when he was in the fourth grade and Waldo Wilson when he lived in Omaha and was older. He made a kite out of the usual paper, wood and string with a cloth tail. He guessed he flew them, but doesn't remember. He



had a second-hand bike with no coaster brake. He once rode his bike up Twin Peaks in San Francisco. Once he shot a rabbit [when we lived on the farm], but never did it again. While living on the farm he experienced his first power outage which lasted for 30 days from a freezing rain in November. When they lived in Omaha, they had plenty of thunderstorms and they lived in third or fourth floor apartments. When he slept in a Murphy bed, he enjoyed watching the lightning through the windows at night. His parents always rented and never bought a house.

His first job was working for a used car dealer in Omaha in the summer of 1927 [age 17]. He was paid \$5 a week working six days. The first time he drove a car was in 1927 when he was working for that used car dealer in Omaha during the summer. He went with one of the older men out west of town to deliver a car and to pick up a trade-in, an older Ford Model T. The other man said to him to drive it back to the shop, so he did. [In my 12 Sep 1999 visit with my father, he said he went with a coworker named Bert to deliver a car out ten miles or so west of town and on the return, Bert let him drive the used car back to town.] The next day he drove a Willys Whippet out to north Omaha and back. It had a standard shift and clutch. He just taught himself how to drive and remembers teaching his mother to drive. His happiest memory as a youth was getting his first car, which was a Gray, he thought. [Gray Motor Co. made the model also named Gray from 1922-1926.] It was very second hand and was a touring car with no top and had four cylinders.

He remembers paying a nickel for an ice cream cone. A war memory he had was his father bringing home papers from the office to burn in San Francisco during WWI. He also remembers celebrations and parades of servicemen in San Francisco at the end of WWI. Another parade he remembers was in Omaha. It was the Ak-Sar-Ben (Nebraska spelled backwards) parade. There were floats running on the street car tracks with a trolley up to the overhead wires to light the floats. All were drawn by big teams of work horses. A philanthropic organization in Omaha sponsored this and it was held at night. Sometimes there were military parades with a large group from Iowa singing a song about Iowa. This was probably in 1920 or 1921. Concerning the family's move from San Francisco to Omaha, Charles remembers he and his father took the train from San Francisco crossing over the Salt Lake at night ending in Omaha. He remembered seeing the moon shine on Salt Lake at night. Agnes and her mother came later. Charles and his father lived in a boarding house and then a house was rented that was at the east end of the school grounds of Technical High School that was being built. By the time Charles attended it, they had moved to another house. The school had an enrollment of 4,000 with four grades.

Then his Long Beach Poly High School was a three-year school. There were about 4,000 students in that high school he attended with 500 in his graduating class in 1928. There were no particular graduation exercises. They just marched up and got their diplomas. People he envied were any of his friends who had the use of a car. A very proud moment in his childhood was when he qualified for the California Scholarship Federation. [He told me he got very good grades and really wanted to go to college, but this award offered no money.] His typical school day outfit was a shirt and short pants until he got to high school. He walked or rode his bike to school. His bike was his most prized possession as a boy. He had a stamp collection for a while [as I did for many years]. He got 25 cents a week allowance as a boy and only had to do a bit of help at home to earn it. In Omaha he was in the Debating Club and the Electrical Club. Charles played the clarinet and saxophone [and taught me the clarinet].

He went to Boy Scout Camp at Omaha a couple of times for two weeks, which was the best vacation he remembers. He also went to carnivals or amusement parks out west in Omaha and rode the roller coaster, etc. He also went to the The Pike [big amusement park on the beach] in Long Beach. He remembered being a spectator at the County Horse Shows at Pomona. He remembers a special Fourth of July holiday in Omaha when a Roman candle blew out in his hand which scorched his hand badly. His parents wouldn't allow any medication as they were Christian Scientists. His favorite holiday was Christmas because of the presents. He remembers being in a hospital in Wichita waiting for prostate

surgery the next morning when he heard the news that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated. His advice to me is to "buy low and sell high." Driving the freeways were some of his most life-threatening situations. As a boy he liked to look at electric trains in stores. In high school he designed and built a small brass steam or compressed air engine. The most memorable gift he gave me was, "The gift of life is not bad." The most memorable gifts I have given him were, "Your love and high regard is the best of all." [By contrast, my mother said giving her perfume was the best gift I have given her.] Charles wrote that on the whole his childhood was good. He and his siblings were loved and cared for.

*****End of notes from *Dad Share Your Life with Me* book*****

In my 3 Feb 2005 conversation with my father, Charles said the ship that took them from Manila, Philippine Islands, to San Francisco took 30 days and he got very seasick, worse than other family members. He remembered that his dad played the piano for Charles and Agnes and taught them the song, "When the ship is trim and ready and the jolly days are gone." of which my father remembers quite a lot of the melody. [See the senior Charles' photo pages for the complete lyrics to the song "They All Loved Jack."] Charles learned to sing from his father.

Class photos show Charles attended first, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades in San Francisco in 1916, 1918, 1919, 1920, and 1921. He attended the seventh grade in 1922 at Webster School, Omaha, Nebraska, and graduated from the eighth grade there in 1924.

Charles' biography says that in the summer of 1927 when he lived in Omaha, he had a job at a used car lot and taught himself to drive. He wiped off dusty cars, ran errands and helped out. Toward the end of summer he stayed with some friends, the Taylors, for a couple of weeks to finish out the job. After his job was over, he drove to Long Beach with his boss and two other employees in an eight cylinder Auburn, which was considered to be quite a car for those days. They slept one night and drove night and day the rest of the time. They slept in some little hotel in Colorado or Utah. They started out at about sunset and drove all that night. He had a chocolate candy bar the next day and got sick and stayed sick all the rest of the trip. They had gravel roads all the way to California except for 80 miles of brick road south of Salt Lake City. Once they got to the California border, probably at Needles, the roads were blacktop. The other men dropped him off at Los Angeles and he took the Pacific Electric car to Long Beach and rejoined the family who had moved there earlier. His parents wouldn't allow him to stay in Omaha and finish school, even though he had only one year of high school to finish, friends to stay with, and a girlfriend he was leaving behind.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s high school diploma shows he graduated on 14 Jun 1928 from Polytechnic High School in Long Beach, California.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s Oct 1982 biography says after high school graduation in 1928, it was necessary for him to get a job right away because the family income was reduced by his father's retirement. His father briefly worked for Bank of America in Los Angeles, but the big depression and stock market crash ended that and his father never found employment afterwards.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 1933 and 1934 federal income tax returns show his address as 745 Daisy Ave., Long Beach, California. His occupation was bank clerk and his income was from the Federal Reserve Bank-Los Angeles Branch.

Charles enjoyed sailing and sailed to Catalina Island on a 60 foot yawl and on other boats when he lived in Long Beach. He built a small sailboat and his friend Clair Hinkley sometimes joined him for a sail. Subsequently, Clair joined the Air Force and was involved in a one-car collision on 19 Aug 1955, dying in a Glendale hospital. In Nov 1978 Ruth Duncan told me Charles got seasick from the fumes of the gasoline engine on that 60 foot yawl trip to Catalina.

In Nov 1978 Charles Duncan, Jr., told me he bought a new 1934 Willys and his young brother George [age about 9] stood on the fender and marked it up much to Charles' chagrin.

Charles Duncan's Birth Certificate, Manila, Philippines, 1910, front

PROVINCIAL FORM No. 83.
Form B. of H. No. 5.3094

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH.

CERTIFICADO DE NACIMIENTO.

Manila, P. I., April 22, 1910, ~~100~~

Name of child Charles Duncan
Nombre del recién nacido.

Date of birth April 22nd 1910.
Fecha del nacimiento.

Place of birth Division Hospital, Manila, P.I.
Lugar del nacimiento.

Living or stillborn Living.
Nació vivo ó muerto.

Sex Male Nationality American.
Sexo. Nacionalidad.

Legitimate or illegitimate Legitimate.
Legítimo ó ilegítimo.

Name and birthplace of father Charles Duncan
Nombre del padre y lugar de su nacimiento.
England.

Age of father 37
Edad del padre.

Name and birthplace of mother Fanny S. Gee.
Nombre de la madre y lugar de su nacimiento.
Albany, Neb.

Age of mother 22
Edad de la madre.

Occupation of father Clerk, A.G.O., H.P.D.
Oficio del padre.

Number of children borne by mother, including present birth 1.
Número de hijos habidos por la madre, incluyendo el presente.

Remarks
Observaciones.

I hereby certify that said Charles Duncan.
Por la presente certifico que dicho

was born on the 22nd day of April 1910., ~~xxx~~
nació el de

with medical attendance.
con ~~XXXXXX~~ asistencia facultativa.
sin

Name of physician WM H MONCRIEF
Nombre ~~XXXXXX~~ de la comadrona Captain, Medical Corps, U.S.A.

Residence physician Division Hospital, Manila, P.I.
Domicilio ~~XXXXXX~~ de la comadrona

This report shall be made by the physician or midwife in attendance. When neither has
Este parte será hecho por el médico ó la comadrona que hubiese asistido. Cuando ninguno de ellos hubiese
been present, the parents must make the certificate or notify the Bureau of Health, in order that
estado presente, los padres harán el certificado ó avisarán al Buró de Sanidad para que éste
they may make the certificate.
pueda hacer el certificado.

The notification must be given or the certificate sent to the office of the Bureau of Health
Deberá darse el aviso ó enviarse el certificado á la oficina del Buró de Sanidad
within thirty days from date of birth.
dentro de los treinta días de la fecha del nacimiento.

36048-2

Charles Duncan's Birth Certificate, Manila, Philippines, 1910, back

Reg. #79

Sta. J Intramuros B. of H

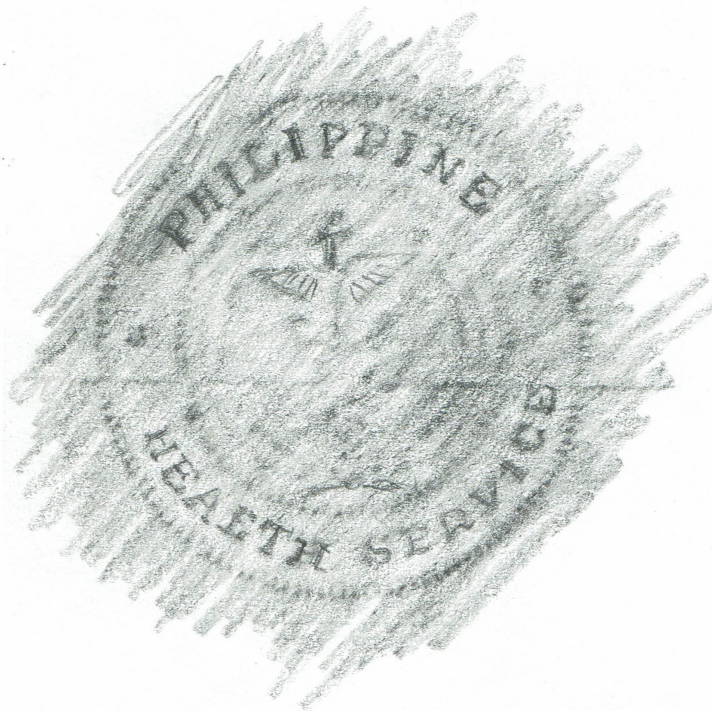
April 23, 1910

Gabino de Jesus

Asst San. Insp.

A copy: Manila, March 15, 1919.

Manuel Gomez



Charles Duncan, Jr. (1910-2005)



**Charles Duncan, Jr.,
in Manila,
Philippines Islands,
where he was born
on 22 Apr 1910**



**Charles Duncan, Jr., with
his Aunt Sadie Johnson,
probably in Nebraska**



**Charles' 1st
Grade class in
San Francisco.
He is 3rd from
the left in the
first standing
row.**

1916



**Charles' 3rd
Grade class in
San Francisco.
He is 3rd from
the left in the
back row.**

1918



**Charles' 4th
Grade class in
San Francisco.
He is 3rd from
the left in
the 3rd row
with a book.**



1919



**Charles' 5th
Grade class in
San Francisco.
He is 4th from
the right in the
2nd row.**



1920



1921



Charles' 6th
Grade class in
San Francisco.
He is on the
left end of the
2nd row.

Charles' 7th
Grade class in
1922 at
Webster
School, Omaha,
Nebraska. He
is the one
standing on the
extreme left.



Charles Duncan, Jr.



**Charles with his pet rooster on a leash,
3512 N. 24th St, Omaha, Nebraska, 1922-1924.**



In Omaha about 1922-1924

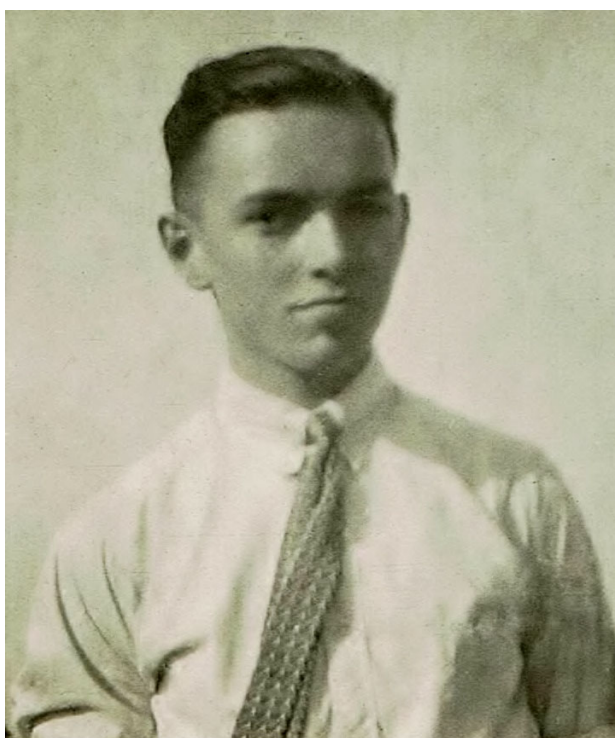


On the roof at home in Omaha about 1924

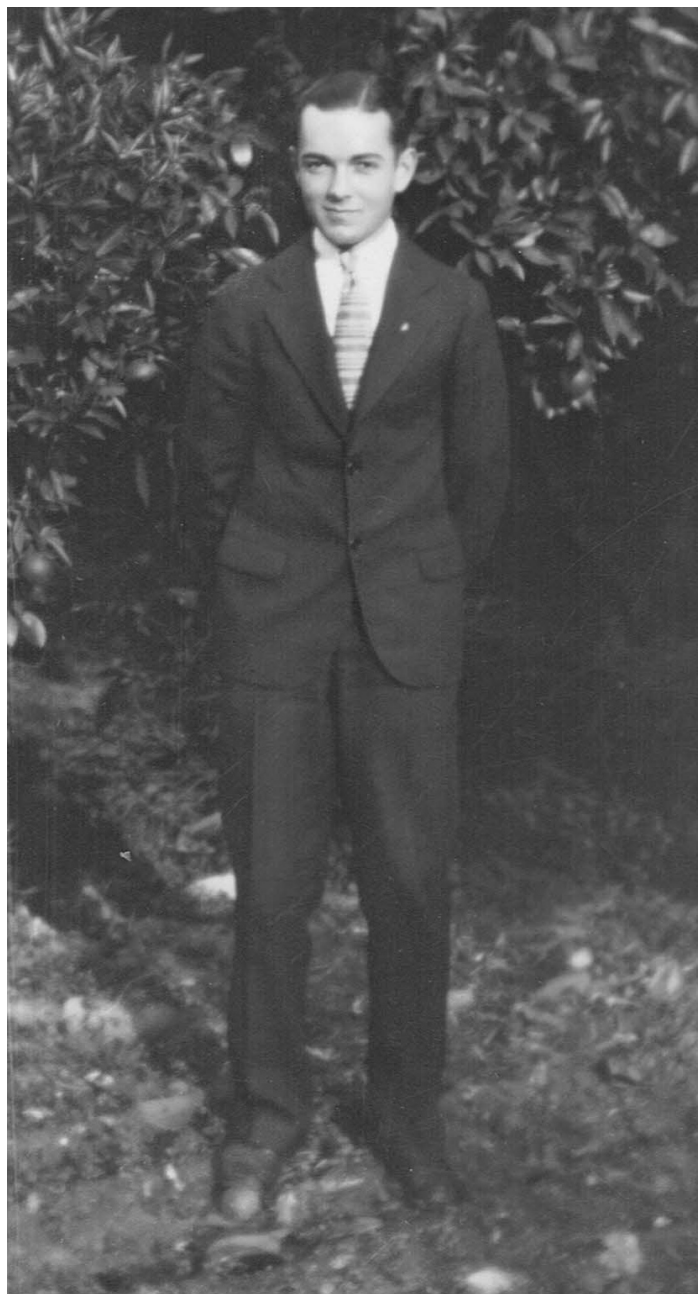




Charles' 8th Grade Graduation class, Webster School, Omaha, Nebraska, 1924. He is the 3rd from the left in the middle row.

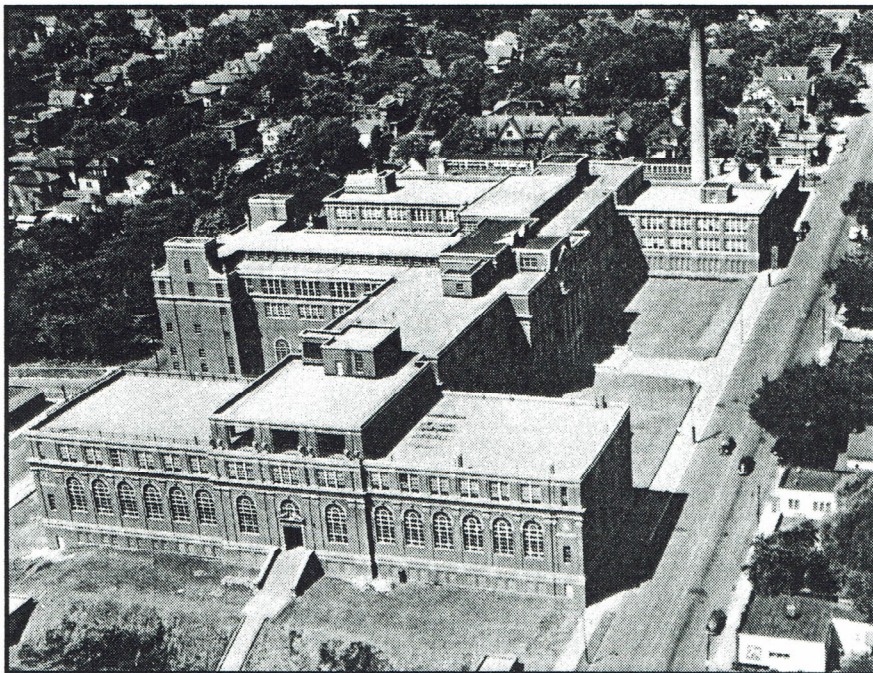


Charles Duncan, Jr.



Charles Duncan, Jr., attended this school in 1924-1927

DOUGLAS COUNTY



This fine 1947 photograph by the late John Savage shows the extensive facilities of the Omaha Technical High School occupied today by the Omaha Public School District Administrative Headquarters.

(Photo courtesy of Mrs. John Savage and the Western Heritage Museum.)

Omaha Technical High School 1922 - 1984

A spectator at the 1949 Nebraska boys state track and field meet in Memorial Stadium at Lincoln was seen smiling after watching Omaha Tech sweep the dashes. Upon inquiry, he said, "Tech's got freshmen coming up even faster than those guys!" That is just one true story about the top level of performance set by this fine Nebraska high school down through the years in matters both academic and athletic. Between May 4, 1922, when the name "Technical High" was first used by students entering the massive new high school building at 30th and Cuming streets, through June of 1984, those high standards never wavered.

Longtime Principal Carl Palmquist, himself a 1926 graduate, was typical of the cadre of dedicated teachers and staff who implemented an academic curriculum second to none in the state during the era of Omaha Tech High School. Thousands of graduates over several generations trace their later success to good study habits learned at Tech. One example would be Nebraska State Senator John S. Savage (1971-78), a 1928 graduate. Best known to all Nebraskans were the phenomenal feats in sports of the maroon, white and gold clad Trojans of Omaha Tech, both boys

and girls teams. Tech athletes won multiple state championships in all major sports. The list of famous all-American caliber athletes who attended Omaha Tech is legion: Bob Gibson of baseball fame '53, Bob Boozer in basketball '55, Fred Hare, a crack shot on the court '63, and Johnny Rodgers '69, whose flashing football skills led to a Heisman Trophy and all time glory while a Nebraska Cornhusker.

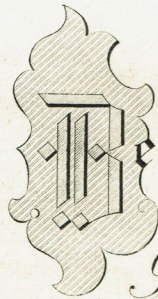
Even near the end of the trail for Omaha Technical High School, her students were still setting records. Anne Vaughan, as a young lady in 1983, set what was then a Class A district track and field record for all Nebraska in the shot put. It was a poignant moment to watch the last graduating class of 1984 receive their diplomas. Yet today what were once the hallowed halls of old Omaha Tech in remodeled form keep the tradition of excellence in education alive as the lighthouse for all OPSD schools as headquarters site for the entire system. It was always a fast track at Omaha Tech. The Omaha Public Schools hope by their efforts to help keep all of the children of parents in this part of Nebraska on a fast track to the good life through good basic education.



Charles' family moved to Long Beach, California, in 1927. He reluctantly left behind a girlfriend, job, and all his friends. He spent his senior year at Polytechnic High School, graduating in 1928.

Polytechnic High School

Long Beach, California



It is known that **Charles Duncan, Jr.** has completed with Credit the Course of Study prescribed for Graduation from this School and is therefore awarded this Diploma

In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and affixed the Seal of the School this *fourteenth* Day of *June* nineteen hundred and *twenty eight*

David Burcham

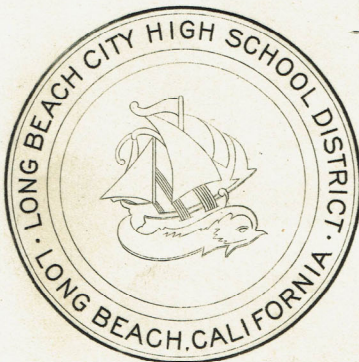
Principal

W. L. Stephens

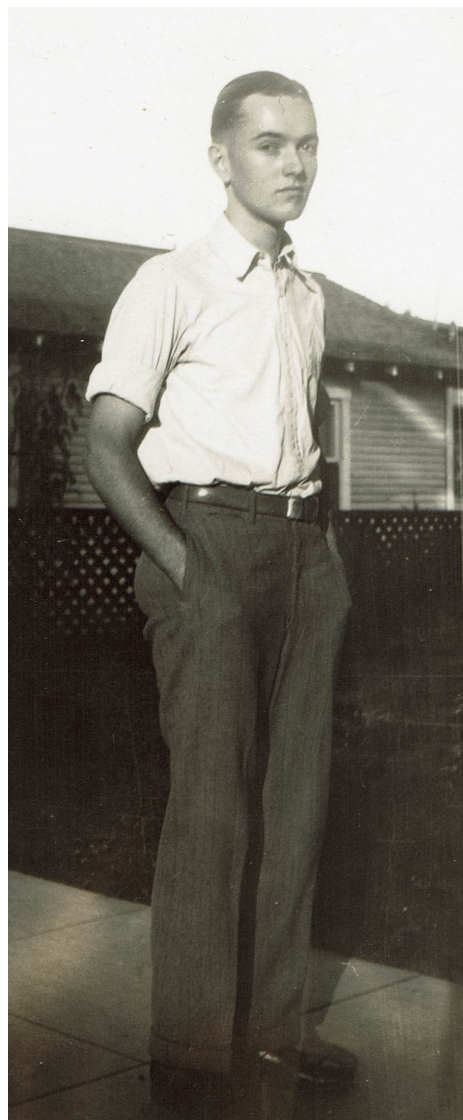
City Superintendent of Schools

Eugene J. Fisher

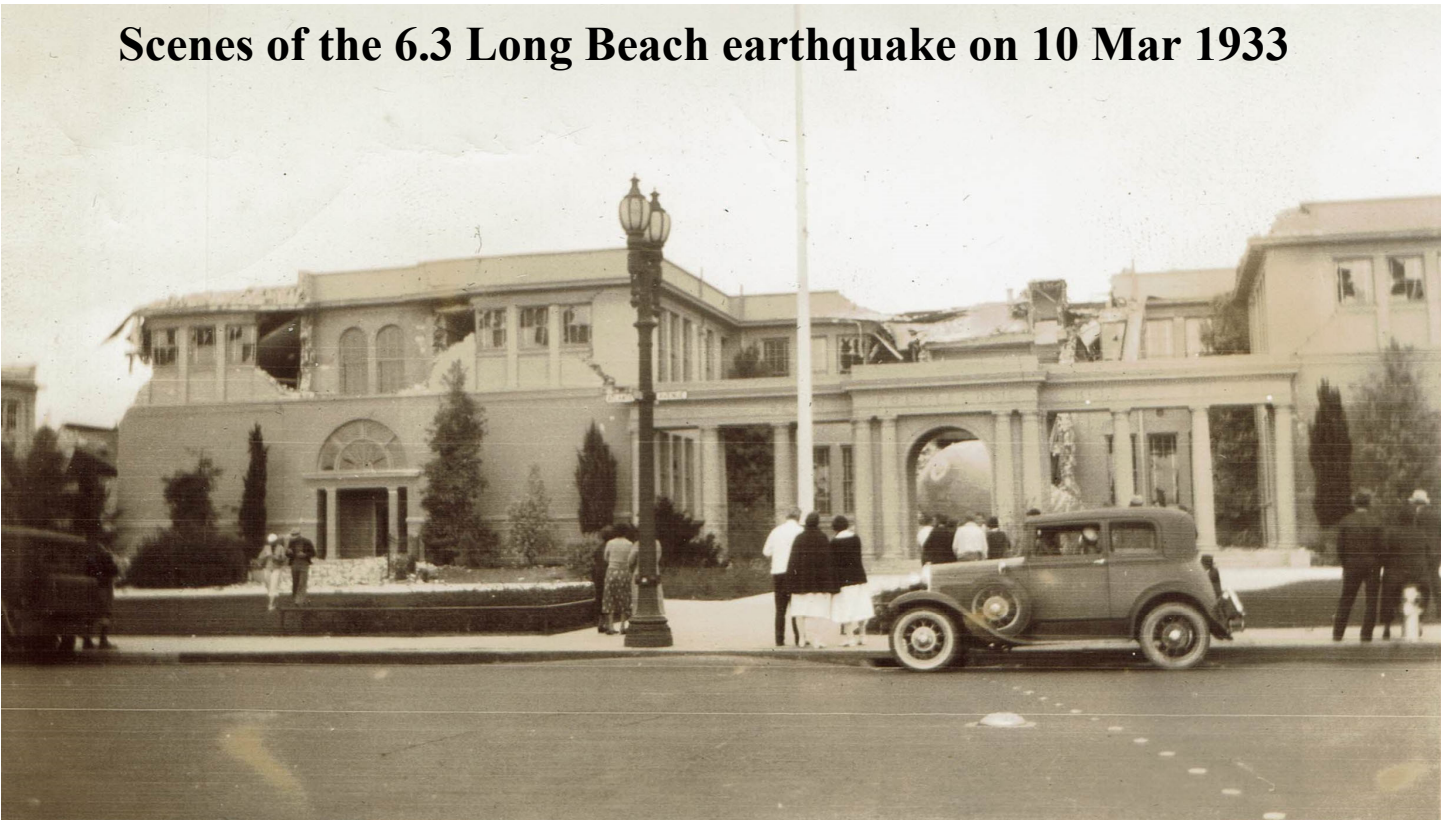
President of Board of Education



Charles Duncan in the early 1930s in Long Beach



Scenes of the 6.3 Long Beach earthquake on 10 Mar 1933



Polytechnic High School in Long Beach, California, with extensive damage after the earthquake on 10 Mar 1933, five years after Charles Duncan's graduation.



The "Johnson Camp" at Amos and Emma Johnson's house, 377 Loma Ave, Long Beach.

Charles Duncan's future wife, Ruth Johnson, stayed in one of these tents at her grandparents' house with her parents for several days. Her two aunts and an uncle also lived at this house.

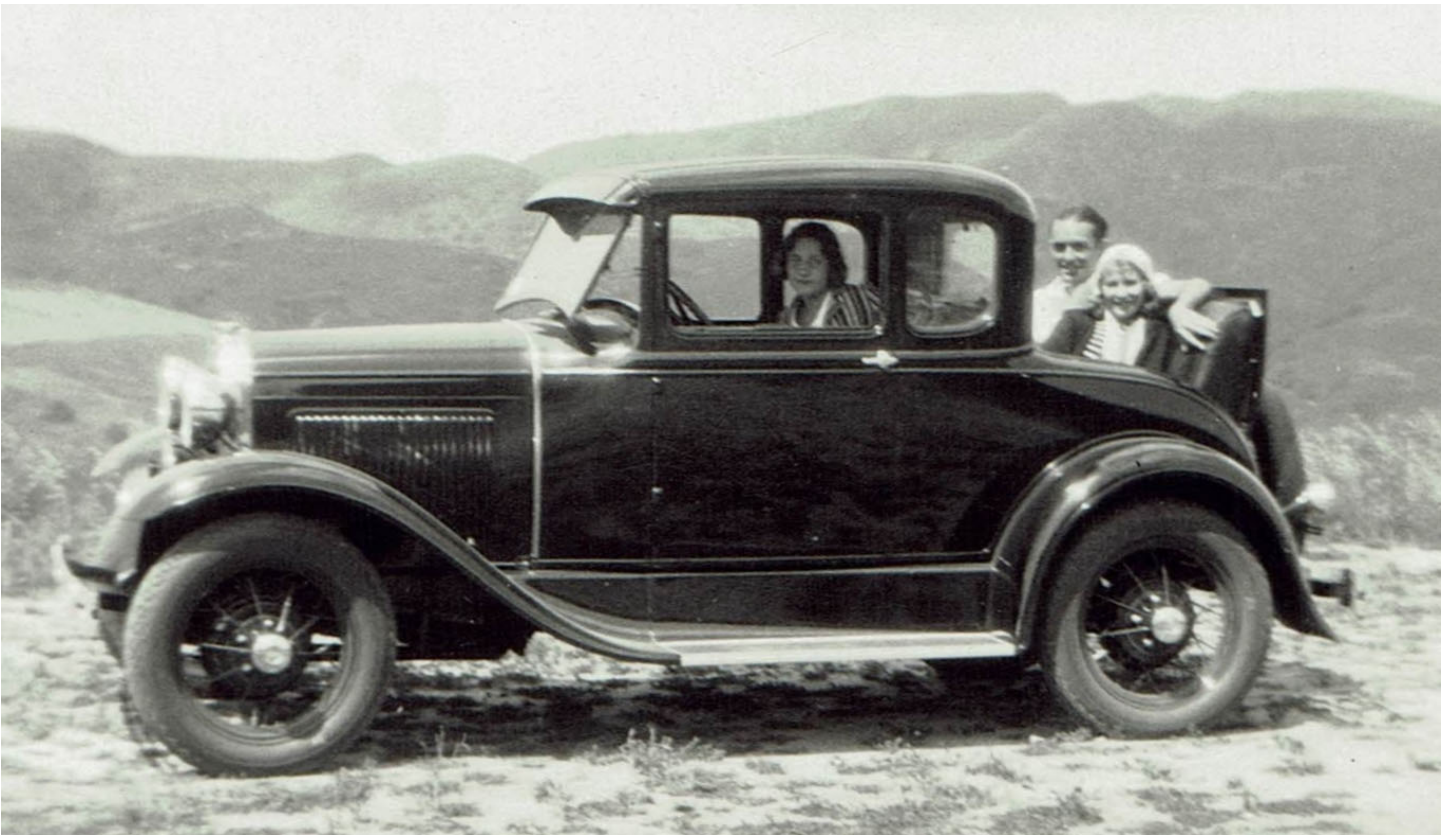
A house on 4th Street in Long Beach after the 10 Mar 1933 earthquake





To the left, Charles Duncan, Jr., and his friend Clair Hinckley standing by the sailboat Charles built. On their way in the other photos. The Long Beach oil wells are in the distance.





Charles Duncan, Jr., and Dorothy Hinkley in the rumble seat.



Clair Hinkley in 1934

Clair Hinkley and Charles Duncan were very good friends and Charles had dated his sister Dorothy Hinkley. Clair Hinkley and Ruth Johnson were dating when Ruth's friends from Ellinwood, Kansas, Daryl and Leota Wagner, came to visit. Ruth and Clair had a date scheduled, and Clair brought Charles along as a date for Leota Wagner. That was in 1935 or 1936 and was the first time Ruth and Charles met. They began dating about October 1936 and married in June 1937.

Clair joined the Air Force and never married. He died in 1955 at the age of 42 driving home to Seal Beach from Edwards Air Force base where he'd been stationed for 14 years.



**Clair Hinkley and Ruth Johnson,
Laguna Beach, 15 Jun 1935**

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



Above, Clair Hinkley with his nephews David & Doug Oliver, 1955



Upper right, David, Dot (nee Hinkley), and Doug Oliver, 1955

Right, David & Dot Oliver (nee Hinkley), Jack & Ethel (nee Hinkley) Richardson, and their father George Hinkley, 1955. Note George & Emma also had a son Ernest.



Left: George and Emma Hinkley in 1955. They ran a popular Long Beach dance ballroom. Their son Clair was friends with Charles Duncan, who had dated their daughter Dot. Clair dated Ruth Johnson who met Charles through him. Charles and Ruth frequented the Hinkley's ballroom.



**Right:
Ethel Richardson
(nee Hinkley) and
Jack Richardson, 1990**

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says Charles, Jr., and his wife Ruth are both quite interested in riding horses and have their own horses.

In my 12 Sep 1999 visit with my father, Charles said his saxophone teacher in Long Beach, California, was Courtland Gilmore who taught privately, maybe on Pine Ave. The teacher had a cabin at Silverado Canyon or Trabuco Canyon and Charles was allowed to stay overnight with his girlfriend and his mother. In 1933 Charles worked on a little motor boat on sawhorses on a vacant lot next-door to his parents' house on Daisy Ave. After the 1933 earthquake, he noticed the boat had nearly fallen off the sawhorses, some bricks had fallen off the chimney, and the house had slid off its foundation slightly and needed to be adjusted.

*****Notes from my 10 Feb 1996 visit with Charles Duncan, Jr.*****

In my 10 Feb 1996 visit with my parents, Charles said he worked for the California Garage in Long Beach in 1928. It was a three-story garage and machine shop. He started out parking cars and picking people up from their homes and apartments and driving them to the garage. Then he straightened bent wheels on lathes and discs. He worked there for a year. In 1929 he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank for six and a half years. It was located at 10th & Olive in Los Angeles. He got the job because his father knew an Army friend who worked there. He worked in the mail and messenger department for four years until the Bank Holiday in 1931 or 1932 when he was transferred to the County Clearing Department as the checks piled up. These were checks written outside the Los Angeles area. [See Charles' Oct 1982 biography for details about working in a bank during the Great Depression.] Then the bank fired him as he wasn't taking enough interest in bank work.

Charles said he took tap dance and ballet lessons when he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank in 1929. The dance studio he attended was run by a Mrs. Picken who had Russian ballet training. He dated Lois Plant who played the piano for a dance studio. He also went to a turnverein (athletic club) with a friend who also played guitar. Otto Mettler, a coach at the club, helped Charles get a job at the American Can Co. in Los Angeles as a timekeeper in winter/spring 1936. But he was fired after three months as he couldn't keep up with the work and memorize all the names of the Mexican employees.

Charles got interested in horses and knew Louis Fisher who rode. Louis, Charles, and Charles' sister Agnes rode together at stables in north Long Beach. Charles lived with an unmarried couple for a month or two and bought a mare "Sissy" for \$50 or so. He never had enough money for dates and was anxious to make money. His parents never encouraged him to go to college as they thought it was above their status. He thought he would get a job and pay for his room and board. The federal government paid \$1,000 bonus when they lived in Long Beach. [Unclear what this was for. Perhaps for Depression-era public aid? In the Depression one out of every three workers was unemployed and one out of every five persons had to seek public aid to stay alive.] Charles worked for a man named Homer Place and loaned him \$200-300 for his saddle shop in Lakewood. Homer and his wife Dora May lived on 10th St. in Long Beach and Charles stayed in a room at the saddle shop and ate meals with them. Charles worked there for several months. They repaired saddles, bridles and polo mallets. The shop was successful. After a few years Homer got a job with the Long Beach Water Co.

Charles' parents moved to San Francisco for a year or two [about 1930] and his father Charles learned to drive there. Then they moved back to Long Beach in about 1936 [by 1933]. Charles bought a new Willys sedan [which were produced from 1937-1942] and spent two years paying for it. Charles took welding lessons at the Long Beach Airport. Glen Arbagast was an Army Air Corps welder with a partner named Neff. Neff got into trouble taking kickbacks from job applicants. Neff got Charles a job at Vultee Aircraft [airplane manufacturer] in the sheet metal department. Soon after, Charles got a job as a welder for Northrop Div. of Douglas Aircraft. Charles worked for Marty Chappell who liked him, and encouraged him to learn aluminum and gas tank welding. When Jack Northrup started a new plant, Charles got a job there in June or July 1937.

Charles' father-in-law owned a small house on 2506 Spaulding St. and Charles and his new bride lived

there free as newlyweds after living in an apartment in Los Angeles for a month and then an apartment in Compton for a month or so. Charles received 62-1/2 cents at Douglas to start and every three months he received another 2-1/2-cent-an-hour raise. Sheet metal workers got 50 cents an hour. When he worked at Douglas, there was a strike when the company had little need for workers. The union head was put up to this by the company and then he left. While on strike, Charles took an arc welding course costing \$100 which was paid by his father-in-law. Arc welding was the new welding technique at the time, and Charles was called back earlier than the others. He used arc welding on airplanes and worked in Santa Monica for more training. When he was promoted to foreman, he used Heliarc welding, received \$400 a month and was the highest paid foreman there. Charles' father-in-law bought a new house in Inglewood for Charles, his wife and me, and expected to be re-paid at regular intervals. Because my parents paid off the loan much sooner than expected, my grandfather returned all the money to them enabling them to own the house without a mortgage.

*****End of notes from 10 Feb 1996 visit with Charles Duncan, Jr.*****

Photos and shared memories show Charles enjoyed riding horses and played polo in the Long Beach area in the 1930s. His friends Louis Fisher and Dorothy Hinkley joined him in riding. Sometimes Charles and Ruth rode in Griffith Park, Los Angeles, after they married. Charles rode his horse "Cissy" at the Lomita Riding Stables and rode "Adaline" at the Dupee Stables. The two horses Charles and Ruth had for the longest time and put on the train from California to Kansas were "Music at Night", a registered American Saddle horse, and "Maggie", who was half Arabian. "Music" was Charles' horse and "Maggie" was Ruth's horse, which I also rode since she was the gentler of the two horses and had an easy canter.

In my 9 Sep 1988 visit with my parents, Charles told me he took saxophone lessons from Cortland Gilmore who played with the Paul Whiteman orchestra. Charles bought his own gold-plated second hand sax (probably a King) and paid for his own lessons. Then he played first sax in a band operated by Houston Hurt, a postman.

In the *Mom Share Your Life with Me* and *Dad Share Your Life with Me* books, both Ruth and Charles wrote in 1996 and 1997 that they met in 1935 or 1936 when Ruth's boyfriend Clair Hinkley brought his friend Charles over to her house as a date for Leota Wagner who was visiting with her brother Daryl from Ellinwood. Charles had dated Clair's sister Dorothy. They went on a double date. Ruth wrote that she thinks their first date was to the movies or maybe a horse show that he rode in. It was cold and she didn't complain which impressed him (he later said). She wore a green wool suit and a gold satin blouse, which were home made, but very attractive. Charles wrote that their first date was a night time horse show that he rode in. He said the qualities that first attracted him to her was that she was very brave about being cold at that horse show and she was very good company. She wrote the qualities that first attracted her to him were that he was nice and nice-looking. She was going to say interesting until she remembered his boring her about motorcycles (he denies this) or horses or cars or something. He had a great sense of humor, too. [I remember she told me that she enjoyed his being a good dancer.] She wrote that he did not propose, but it was the depression and there were no jobs.

Finally he got a job and they were certainly old enough to take the plunge. He wrote that he doesn't remember proposing, but it became an outcome they both expected to happen. [In 1995, Ruth said they dated about eight months before marrying.] She wrote that her wedding dress was a dress she already had for playing dance jobs. It was organza with a kind of blue net over a taffeta slip of American Beauty red (cerise) with a full skirt. Charles wrote that he wore a suit he had. Ruth wrote that they had a wedding supper at the LaFayette Hotel, attended by her parents, his parents, George and Dorothy [Oliver], Homer and Dora May [Place], Deandy [her grandmother Alice Lash], Agnes and Don Lohr, George Duncan, Leah Dana Seykora (who played the violin at the wedding), and her accompanist Mae Gilbert Reese (a piano teacher). Probably Sade Johnson (nee Gee) also attended. They both wrote that they did not have a honeymoon because they couldn't afford it and didn't have time as Charles had just started a new job. Ruth wrote that after they were first married they lived in a

small apartment in Los Angeles for a brief time before moving to a place in Compton. Soon after that they moved to a house her father owned on Spaulding St., Long Beach. After that they lived in a house he bought for them at 2916 W. 80th St., Inglewood. Charles wrote that his job at the time was working as a welder at the Northrup Division of Douglas Aircraft. Charles wrote that the biggest challenge he faced during their early years of marriage was making enough money to survive. Ruth wrote that her biggest challenge was feeling isolated since she had no car. Also they certainly didn't have much money, but she never worried, since she knew her parents would not let her starve. They both wrote that their first address when they moved to Kansas [in fall 1946] was 2420 Zarah Dr., Great Bend. Then their address was Route 3, Great Bend, Kansas.

A wedding announcement states, "Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson announce the marriage of their daughter Ruth Lorraine to Mr. Charles Duncan, Jr., on Saturday, the twelfth day of June nineteen hundred thirty-seven Long Beach, California."

An undated, unnamed newspaper clipping shows Miss Ruth Lorraine Johnson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Johnson, married Charles Duncan, Jr., at her parents' home at 244 Ximeno Ave. [Long Beach, California] by Rev. Fred F. Shields. Charles is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Duncan of 286 Redondo Ave. Attendants were Mrs. George Oliver, Jr., and Homer Place. A wedding supper was served to 25 at the Lafayette. Ruth is well-known in Long Beach musical circles and is a graduate of Wilson High School and Junior College. Charles graduated from Poly High and is employed at the Northrop Aircraft Co. in Inglewood. They will make their home in Los Angeles.

The Marriage Service of Charles Duncan, Jr., and Ruth Lorraine Johnson shows their marriage in Long Beach, California, on 12 Jun 1937. Both were of Long Beach. They were married by Rev. Fred F. Shields. Witnesses were Homer Place and Mrs. Dorothy Oliver. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson, Mrs. Fanny S. Duncan, Charles Duncan, George Duncan, Leah Dana Seykora, Margaretta Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Lohr, Mrs. Sadie A. Johnson, Mrs. Alice Lash, Clara P. Johnson, Pearl B. Johnson, Clearchus Johnson, and Mrs. Dora May Place.

Charles Duncan, Jr., and Ruth Lorraine Johnson's marriage certificate shows they married on 12 Jun 1937 in Long Beach, California. Charles lived at 286 Redondo Ave., Long Beach, California. He was 27 and born in Manila, Philippine Islands. His father is Charles Duncan, born in Kent Co., England. His mother is Francis Salina [Frances Selina] Gee, born in Albion, Nebraska, USA. Ruth lived at 244 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, California, and was 24. She was born in Ellinwood, Kansas. Her father is D. C. Johnson, born in Illinois, and her mother's maiden name is Florence M. Lash, who was born in Iowa. The bridal couple are both single and this is their first marriage. The groom is an aircraft worker in an aircraft factory and the bride is a musician. Mrs. Dorothy Oliver of Palm Springs was a witness. They were married by Rev. Fred F. Shields, a Baptist minister of 370 Orizaba Ave., Long Beach, California.

The West Family Bible shows Ruth Johnson was born on 18 Dec 1912 and married Charles Duncan. They had a daughter Lorraine.

Mr. & Mr. George Hinkley and children: Clair, Dorothy Oliver (and husband George), and Ethel Richards (and husband Jack) were good friends of Charles and Ruth. The Olivers lived in Vista in the 1950s and possibly through 2009 when Ruth visited Dorothy there. Dorothy had been a widow for some years. The Hinkleys operated a dance ballroom which was a popular place in Long Beach for dancers of all ages to meet and was very well supervised and respectable. Charles and Ruth went there frequently and became friends of the family.

Homer and Dora May Place were good friends of Charles and Ruth and sent them a photo taken in Jun 1953.

Ruth Duncan wrote in 1995 that after her marriage, they lived for one month in an apartment in Los Angeles, then for a few months in Compton [California]. After that they lived on Spaulding St., Long Beach, which her father owned. Then they lived in Inglewood on 80th St. After that they lived at

2420 Zarah Drive, Great Bend, Kansas, while their Dartmouth house was being built, then Dartmouth [on a farm 7 miles east of Great Bend that Ruth's father owned]. Finally they lived in Indian Wells, Laguna Beach [Laguna Niguel], Monarch Beach and San Juan Capistrano, all in California.

Charles Duncan's 16 Aug 1938 letter to his sister Clara says Charles is still with the same aeroplane factory and has had either one or two raises since Charles last wrote his sister. He wrote that the industry is certainly booming.

Charles Duncan's 22 Nov 1938 letter to his sister Clare says the Northrup aeroplane factory where Charles was employed had to lay him off three weeks ago due to the completion of contracts. He is keeping in touch with the various aeroplane factories in the vicinity and expects to obtain employment again by about the first of the year.

In Apr 1939 Charles, Ruth and Lorraine lived at 2506 Spaulding St., Long Beach, per a letter written by Charles to Ruth who was staying in Palm Springs, California, with friends who were rehearsing for and performing a recital.

In June 1939 Charles, Ruth and Lorraine lived at 2506 Spaulding St., Long Beach, per a letter written by Ruth to her father. She wrote that they, together with Florence Johnson, Agnes and Don Lohr, toured a DC 4 at the Douglas plant in Santa Monica recently. Ruth asked her father about the wheat harvest and how he likes his new car.

Charles Duncan's 28 Nov 1939 letter to his sister Clara says Charles remains in the airplane industry as a welder and got another raise on Nov. 15. He now makes 95 cents an hour. He and his little family are getting along famously.

A series of Apr 1940 letters between Charles and Ruth Duncan shows their address to be 2916 W. 80th St., Inglewood, California.

A 10 Jan 1942 letter from D. C. Johnson is addressed to Mrs. Charles Duncan Jr., 2916 W. 80th St., Inglewood, Calif.

Photos of Charles and Ruth Duncan show them vacationing at Glenn Ranch [Orange County, California] with their dogs Peter and Polly in May 1943.

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says Charles is still in the airplane industry and getting \$400 a month.

In Jun 2019 I emailed Robert Yarmer [an Ellinwood, Kansas, historian] for information about the contractor, Joe Dessen, who started building our house at Dartmouth. Mr. Yarmer's 23 Jun 2019 email said, "Yes, Joe Dessen was the contractor to go to during the 30s and 40s to have a home built from the ground up. He died in 1947 at the age of 51 and I remember the whole town was in shock. My uncle John Yarmer then quit the lumber yard and started building homes himself. I remember dad talking about Joe starting the Catholic rectory in 1941 and after the war started he couldn't find enough material to finish the building because of scarcity of everything. Dad was a painter and interior decorator and he always said the finish carpenters Joe had working for him were the best, but then it ended in 1947."

Charles Duncan, Jr.,'s Oct 1982 biography says they contracted with local builder Joe Dessen to build the house and started on 1 Apr 1947. In one day, they dug the basement and ran the foundations and basement walls with two portable cement mixers. Right after that, Mr. Dessen died of a heart attack. Charles hired his men for \$1/hour and they built the house. Charles could read the blue-prints for them and he worked alongside them in all the work---carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and plastering. Charles borrowed stone masonry tools to cover the front of the house with limestone and build the chimney and fireplace.

A 5 Jun 1947 *Great Bend Tribune* story about the house Charles Duncan was building states their address is 2420 Zarah Drive, Great Bend. They moved into the new house on a farm at Dartmouth

owned by D. C. Johnson in Dec 1947.

A 1 Jun 1947 *Hutchinson News-Herald* article states that Charles Duncan was building a unique home designed by T. Marion Heter, architect and engineer at Sterling, Kansas. It was designed to be energy efficient with many south-facing windows with insulated glass and a sloped roof. [Charles did much of the work himself, including all of the stonework of the outside of the home, the fireplace, and chimney. The stone, reclaimed from fence posts, was native limestone embedded with fossilized shells and leaves.]

An unnamed newspaper of 29 Jun 1949 states Gov. Frank Carlson visited the Kansas wheat harvest and watched combines cutting barley near Ellinwood on land owned by D. C. Johnson. His son-in-law, Charles Duncan, said the barley was making 30 to 35 bushels to the acre. Mr. Duncan said wheat generally was averaging 10 to 12 bushels to the acre. Another farmer interviewed said 15 bushel yield was exceptional for that area.

The Jul 1949 issues of the *Wichita Eagle* reported similar information, but also said Charles Duncan gave up a job in a Los Angeles airplane factory two years ago to become a Kansas farmer. He was supervising the cutting of wheat and barley for his father-in-law, D. C. Johnson, six miles east of Great Bend on highway U.S. 50 N. They were about through cutting wheat which they said is a poor crop this year, running only 10 to 12 bushels which is about half as big as last year's.

Charles attended a welding class in Ellinwood in Jan 1955, despite having been a welding supervisor at Northrup Aircraft during the war. Perhaps he wanted to see if any new techniques and equipment had been created since the war? The 25 Jan 1955 *Great Bend Tribune* includes a photo of him and about 30 other men watching the instructor weld at the Ellinwood High School.

Charles and Ruth made several driving trips from their farm near Great Bend, Kansas, to Long Beach, California. After their move to California, they took annual trips of less than a week to Kansas to visit their farms and friends. Ruth kept detailed records of the number of miles between towns en route and the details about motels, restaurants, gas stations, weather, etc. She also wrote and kept detailed packing lists for them and notes of tasks to do before they left on a trip. They made these trips in 1952, 1961, 1963-1968, 1973-1974, 1976-1978, 1980-1986, 1988, and 1992. I have followed in my mother's footsteps and also keep detailed packing lists, travel itinerary and notes.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Charles and Ruth made a few trips to Colorado as Ruth had a cousin who lived in Denver. They also visited Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs. In 1957 we went to Yellowstone Natl. Park. When I lived in Hawaii from 1959-1962, they visited me in Feb 1961. They also visited Hawaii with some friends in 1972. They drove to Florida on a three-week vacation in 1962. They visited Omaha in Oct 1965. In 1970 they took a trip to San Francisco. In Aug 1973 they vacationed in Idyllwild. In Nov 1980 they visited Santa Rosa, California, as they had friends who lived there.

A 1 Aug 1972 letter from Florence Johnson is addressed to Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Duncan, Jr., Coco Palms, Wailua, Kauai, Hawaii.

A Jul 1978 postcard from me shows Charles and Ruth Duncan lived at 45-370 Manitou Drive, Indian Wells, California.

Charles and Ruth lived at 46-370 Manitou Drive, Indian Wells, California, per a letter from them to Silvia in Mar 1979. Then they lived at 77-311 Sioux Drive, Indian Wells, California, per letters from them to Silvia Henderson [and per me] from Dec 1979-1985.

Charles enjoyed playing golf for many years when he and Ruth lived in Indian Wells and coastal Orange County. On 24 Jun 1985 he played in the 1986 Fifth Annual Wisdom Invitational Golf Championship at Monarch Beach Club, Dana Point, California.

A 1990 photo shows the summer home of Charles and Ruth at 26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano, California.



**Charles Duncan, Jr., 2nd from left,
5th Annual Wisdom Invitational followed
by dinner at the Monarch Beach Club,
Dana Point, California, 24 Jun 1985**



**Ruth and Charles on their
50th Wedding Anniversary at the
Ritz-Carlton Hotel , Dana Point, California**



**Charles and Ruth Duncan at their
San Juan Capistrano home with their
50th Anniversary gifts from Lorraine,
13 Jun 1987**

They moved here in mid-May 1987.



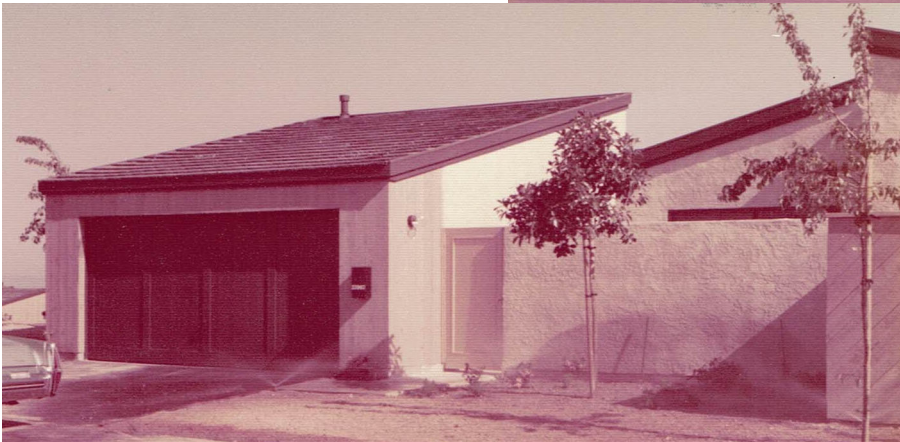
Charles and Ruth Duncan's summer condo from 1974-1983, 22962 Cantara Lane, Laguna Niguel, California.

Back of house looks out on the ocean.

Photos taken Apr 1974



Front of house is garage with walled courtyard, shown in bottom left.



Bottom right: View of the ocean from the back of the house





**Charles and Ruth's summer home from 1983-1987,
8 Los Monteros, Monarch Beach,
Dana Point, California. Photo taken 1983**



Charles and Ruth Duncan, Dec 1984

In her 9 Apr 1999 letter to me, Marion Fenn wrote, "What a home your Mum and Dad have. It looks like out of a film and the situation wonderful. The kitchen, the swimming pool, the front door! It's all marvelous. The tree on the wall of the lounge; did your father make it? [Yes, it is a metal sculpture of a bamboo tree.] It's all wonderful and am so glad you sent us the photos. Please tell your Mum how impressed we are. So glad to hear your Dad is feeling better."

In my May 1997 visit, Kathleen Barry (nee Symons) said Charles, who she met in 1987 in California, is very much like his uncle Ray Henderson.

Charles and Ruth Duncan had these addresses:

1968-1979	46370 Manitou Dr., Indian Wells, California
1974-1983	22962 Cantara Lane, Monarch Summit, Laguna Niguel, California
1978-1998	77-311 Sioux Dr., Indian Wells, California
1983-1987	8 Los Monteros, Monarch Beach, Dana Point, California
1987-1997	26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano, California
1997-2003	77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells, California
2003-2004	2150 Collier Court, Tustin, California
2004-2008	77-305 Black Mountain Trail, Indian Wells, California
2008-2010	Ruth lived at 10 Marquette, Apt. 118, Irvine, California

They lived in summer homes in Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, and San Juan Capistrano for many years until they sold their last summer house in San Juan Capistrano, sold their Sioux Dr. house and bought their Cottonwood Cove house. Then they sold that house and moved to a Tustin Ranch house where they lived for about six months. Then they lived at their Black Mountain Trail home until Ruth moved to Irvine three years after Charles died in a facility for Alzheimer's patients.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s death certificate shows his birth on 2 Apr 1910 in the Philippine Islands and his death at age 95 on 18 Nov 2005 at Brighton Gardens of Rancho Mirage, 72201 Country Club Drive, Rancho Mirage, Riverside, California. His cause of death was arrhythmia and arteriosclerotic heart disease, as well as Alzheimer's Disease. He had been a farmer for 60 years. He was a high school graduate and had never served in the U.S. Armed Forces. His father is Charles Duncan, born in England, and mother is Frances S. Gee, born in Nebraska. His residence was 77305 Black Mountain Trail, Indian Wells, Riverside, California, 92210. He had lived in Riverside County for 38 years. His wife was Ruth Lorraine Duncan of the same address. He was cremated, followed by transit out of state for burial [CR/TR/BU]. His place of final disposition was Lakin-Comanche Cemetery, 501 E. "D" Street, Ellinwood, Kansas.

Notes from CHARLES DUNCAN, JR.'s Diaries

Supplemented with daughter Lorraine's memories, shown between sets of three asterisks

FARM LIFE

*** We owned a milk cow whose prior owner had to teach Charles to milk her. Although Ruth and I tried to milk her, she would only let her milk down to Charles and other experienced milkers. So when we were gone for more than a day, a neighbor would have to milk her. In order to sell her cream to a creamery in Ellinwood, we had to separate the milk using a hand-operated milk separator. It was a very tricky operation and the timing of the hand-cranked strokes was critical so Charles had to keep an eye on the second hand of the clock to make sure he was doing it properly. Then Ruth and I had the big job of washing all the multiple parts, including about 20 separate metal cones. It took all evening to separate a bucket or two of milk. We kept out some whole milk for ourselves and pasteurized it which gave it a funny taste, but we got used to it. We fed the skim milk to the pigs. Every few years we raised a calf or two for butchering.***

***Hail storms were common and one year the hail was as big as grapefruit. One of our neighbors

was on his tractor at the time and received a huge gash in his head and had to be taken to the hospital. The hail also put big gashes in the side of our milk cow. Ruth saved some of the hailstones, wrapped them in aluminum foil and put them in the freezer. When visitors from California would visit, she would unwrap the hailstones to the great amazement of our guests! Another time in Jun 1966 the hail badly damaged their roof, broke two windows in the garage, stripped trees and ruined the wheat. Other weather hazards were very high winds which damaged roofs, serious floods of the river which marooned us for a few days but fortunately never entered the house, tornadoes which spared us, and snow storms. Charles, Ruth and I spent many hours planting, weeding, watering and picking fruit and vegetables, which Ruth and I canned and froze. A special treat was peach ice cream from our own cream and peaches which Charles hand-cranked in the ice cream maker. Ruth made our butter with a semi-automatic butter churn.***

For four years in the early 1950s, Charles and Ruth raised mink and at one time they had 100 mink of different varieties and colors. [It was not profitable, as frequent thunderstorms caused the frightened mother mink to eat their young babies as a way to "protect" them.]

Due to a big storm in March 1957, all electric and phone lines were down for 28 days. Fortunately Charles purchased a generator the day after the storm hit, so they were able to have electricity on a very limited basis.

He was kept busy connecting and disconnecting the generator from various appliances and the furnace so if we wanted the refrigerator to run, we couldn't do the ironing or the laundry, for example. For many years we had a crank-type phone with many neighbors on a party line. Customers were assigned two-digit numbers. The first number was the number of long rings and the second number was the number of short rings that a family should answer. Our number was 11, one long followed by one short ring, which was very nice because it meant that after the second long ring, we stopped listening to see if it was our phone call. In those days people didn't talk very long or about anything very personal, as you knew there could be other people waiting to use the phone and listening in on your conversations. You would often hear babies crying or dogs barking on a phone call to someone you knew didn't have a baby or a dog! Several very long rings meant everyone should pick up the phone as it usually meant there was a neighborhood emergency, like a fire. As there was no nearby fire department, neighbors often helped each other put out grass fires. I remember helping my parents and many others put out a neighbor's fire with wet gunny sacks.

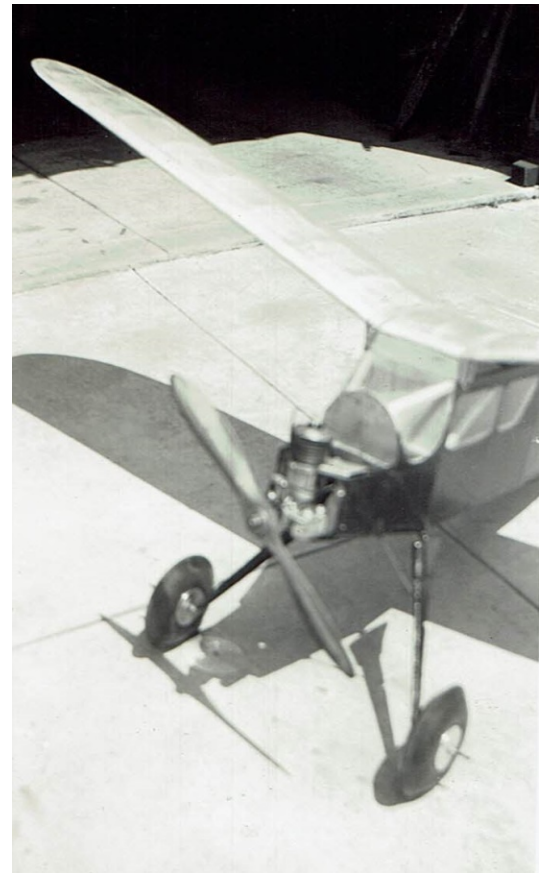
Charles was very active for many years in the local rural phone company until it was taken over by the city of Ellinwood phone company in about Apr 1960 when a dial phone was installed in their home.

Previously he helped repair broken phone lines and handled the billing and bookkeeping. ***My diary shows he was elected president of the rural company on 6 Jun 1949.***

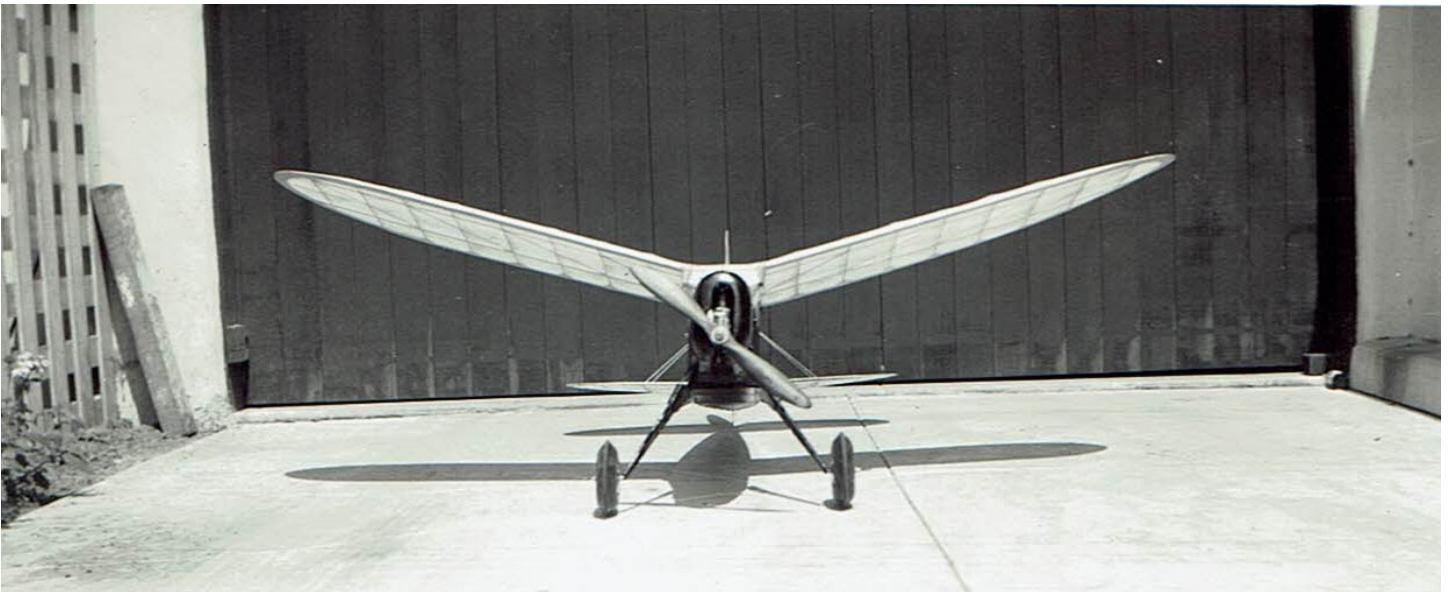
HOBBIES/ENTERTAINMENT/INTERESTS

Charles' main joy after I was grown was frequently sailing on local lakes with Ruth and friends. He built two sailboats in Kansas from kits. The first one was a Snipe class sailboat, which he built in 1958 and sailed at nearby Barton Lake. He sold it in 1960 after building a larger sailboat of a Mystic class, which he named "Windward". He sailed it at Lake Kanopolis about 60 miles away with Ruth, several friends and me often joining as crew and passengers over the years. He also belonged to the Golden Belt Boat Club, serving as president in 1962, and sometimes went to sailboat races in Wichita, Kansas. On one of their trips to California in 1965, Charles and my husband went sailing at Newport Beach. This may have been the last time he sailed.

In Jun 1968 Charles started taking golf lessons in Great Bend and in the Palm Springs area. He frequently played until 1985 or 1986. He also swam nearly every day for many years at their houses in Indian Wells and in hotel pools.



Charles assembled this Scorpion airplane with a Mighty Midget motor from a kit in Jun 1938.



Stainless steel bracelet that Charles made for Ruth in the mid-1940s when he worked at Northrup.



Elton and Esther Kuhlman, 1981
The Kuhlman's were very good friends of Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine, who dated one of their three sons, Keith, for two years.



Charles and Ken Kuhlman on "Mystic", the Snipe class sailboat built by Charles in the horse barn at Dartmouth. Lake Kanopolis, 1959.

Charles Duncan and Esther Kuhlman on "Mystic" at Lake Kanopolis, 1959





**Charles Duncan, Jr.,
building his second
boat in the Dartmouth
horse barn in Jan
1960. “Windward”
was a 22 ft. cruising
sloop with cabin,
galley, and head.**





TACKING TO STARBOARD, the good ship Windward cuts across Kanopolis Reservoir under a stout breeze. Sitting in the stern sheets, hand on tiller, back to camera, is owner-captain Charles Duncan. Beside him is Melvern Schartz while Elton Kuhlman sits on the port coaming, facing camera. Mrs. Kuhlman and Mrs. Duncan are partially visible in the cabin well.

This and the following six pages are from the 14 Apr 1963 *Great Bend Tribune* feature article about Charles Duncan's sailing on Lake Kanopolis, Kansas

Photos, courtesy of *Great Bend Tribune*, were placed over the newsprint versions.

Note correct spelling of their friend's name is Malvern.

Springtime Is Sailboat-Launching Time for Dartmouth's Charles Duncan

By EVERETT BROWN
Tribune Staff Writer

April, traditionally a time for removal of winter's accumulation of leaves from the lawn and preparations for summer's fun, means "launching" time for Charles Dun-

can, who set his 22-foot plywood sailboat "Windward" into the gentle swells at Lake Kanopolis this week. It's a mite early for fun on deck but not a moment too soon for water level in the reservoir is lowered in April to make way for

the anticipated showers that usually raise the water table.

Duncan, an old salt of long experience since his baptism in the sea while living in California, goes about the annual launching chore and a regimen that seems to sprout mast, jub, boom, spreaders, stays, guywires, tiller, rudder and centerboard almost before you can pronounce the words or locate them on the ship.

When the Daily Tribune cameraman visited Kanopolis this week, Captain Duncan, Able Seamen Elton Kuhlman and Melvern Schartz were scrambling over the as-yet-unlaunched ship with the spirit of salt water sailors about to set canvas for a close haul around the Cape of Good Hope.

Sitting in its custom-made cradle, the Windward is a pretty thing with its copper tinted hull (below the waterline), blue and white above water and gray topside with mahogany coamings, hatch covers and ogee. When the 30-foot long aluminum mast is stepped into place, the boom attached at right angles, extending backwards over the cockpit and the 220 feet of dacron sail run aloft, the Windward comes alive with excitement. The sail, however, is not affixed until the ship is in deep water, ready for maneuvering.

Duncan's abilities as a welder are evident everywhere, from the telescoping cradle boom he attaches to the pickup truck to the gear he's fixed for transporting materials.

With the long boom extended between cradle (trailer) and pickup, Duncan clambered aboard Windward.
(Continued on Page 2-A)



Charles on Lake Kanopolis with "Windward" which he built at the farm at Dartmouth. With him are Ruth, Melvern Schartz, and Elton Kuhlman.

Springtime Means Sailboat Launching

(Continued from Page 1)

ward while Schartz backed the truck down the ramp until he was literally sitting in a lapful of water.

Finally, the ship floated free of the cradle — then the truck's engine sputtered, coughed and died. With Kuhlman, Schartz and Duncan looking on, wondering what they'd use to pull the pickup from the water, Schartz used the truck's starter to pull the machine far enough from the water to enable him to start the engine. Finally, he emerged from the lake like a metallic sea serpent with water spraying from the cab, doors, and the bed running awash.

Duncan started the five-horsepower auxiliary engine and, slipping the tiller into place on the rudder, steered *Windward* around into the sheltered marina managed by Fred Pflughoeft, where he docks the ship each summer. The engine is used only for docking or in dead calms.

After lunch, the Duncans, Kuhlman, Schartz and the landlubber photographer clambered aboard for a shakedown cruise across the lake. Watching the AB's and the captain handling yards of battened sailcloth with the ease of a housewife attaching shirts to a clothesline, an observer needs only to fly with his imagination to gallant topsails, running halyards, foretops and the acres of heavy canvas which were daily raised and lowered by nimble-footed seamen working the rigging high above the teak decks of four-masters.

Once the sails are attached to boom, jib and mast, the sailing ship begins to take on a distinctive personality impossible to imagine in a powered boat where the smell of gasoline fumes and the noise of the engine drowns all conversation.

Life aboard a sailboat is as different from that in a powerboat as riding the hurricane deck of a rodeo bronco is from the satinsmooth luxury of a Rolls Royce.

Sailing a ship is nothing for a novice to tackle either, unless he has a natural-born knack for assimilating the correct way to set the sails to get the maximum benefit from the wind currents. Sailing before the wind is one thing, but tacking against the breeze is quite another.

Duncan seats himself in the cockpit, grabs the tiller in one hand and loops the sheets (line attached to boom by pulley blocks) in the other and away he goes. He can secure the boom by snubbing the line around a cleat, which gives him a free hand to grasp the line running aft from the jib boom—a horizontal spar attached to the front side of the vertical mast. The jib sail, a small triangular bit of



FIRST MATE takes it easy out of the sun and wind by riding snugly inside *Windward's* cabin. Mrs. Charles Duncan, wife of the skipper, shares her husband's enthusiasm for life under the swell of canvas. Both Duncans were raised on the west coast where sailing is taken for granted.



GRIPPING TILLER and jib sheet, Charles Duncan, master of the mystic class sailing vessel *Windward*, keeps an eye on the main sail as he tacks to windward during the initial 1963 junket on Lake Kanopolis. Duncan is an old hand at the art of sailing, having grown up in California.

running aft from the jib boom—a horizontal spar attached to the front side of the vertical mast. The jib sail, a small, triangular bit of fabric, helps to catch air currents and speed the ship on its journey.

Windward's deck, cabin roof and cockpit sides are covered with canvas, which fact alone necessitates the wearing of crepe or rubber-soled footwear aboard, lest the fabric be rent asunder.

Windward's passengers may sit in the cockpit with the skipper, perch on the taffrail and dangle their feet in the water or, feeling adventuresome, tiptoe around the coaming and the narrow part of the beam to arrive at last in the bow where a fresh, spanking breeze whets the appetite and makes the tedium-dulled senses take on new life.

During the cruise this week, when the April air was brisk with the chill of a departing winter, Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Kuhlman chose to ride in Windward's comfortable cabin, sheltered from breeze and spray.

Builder Duncan, who bought the boat in kit form and hand-assembled it through a winter's time, has given tender, loving care to minute details. Descending a chromium-railed, rubber-cleated ladder into the cabin, a visitor is at once aware of the untold hours of painstaking care that have been built into the ship.

Dishes, glasses, bowls and saucers are all placed in bins which have odd-shaped access holes so that, during a trip when the ship may be running at a keel-exposing angle, her coaming nearly cresting the whitecaps, the galley will not be the scene of chaos, for cups and saucers do not ride well in a wildly-pitching pantry.

Duncan built a galley with plenty of fresh water accessible at the touch of a spigot, a stove that burns bottled gas and he even added a "head" (bathroom) for the convenience of passengers and crew alike.

The cabin seats four and sleeps three, although the Duncans have never spent a night aboard their trim craft.

Below decks, buttoned up against a gale, the Duncans could ride out anything from a nor'easter to a water spout—but they'd just as soon the weather remained reasonably calm.

Kanopolis will soon abound with power craft, which rely on smooth water for comfortable riding. Not so the sailing craft, which do not really get underway until there is a better-than-average breeze. When whitecaps have turned the basin into a series of bone-jarring slams for power boaters, sailors are never happier for their jaunty craft fairly fly before the breezes, with hulls knifing through rough water with the ease of a dolphin.

One rule which power boaters seem prone to ignore is that sailboats have the right-of-way at all times. Duncan remembers the thoughtless water skier who came perilously close to Windward one day, hurling a mighty wave over



LAY AFT! From the jumper stays to the main spreaders, the main mast of Windward presents an imposing sight aloft, with guy wires strumming and the sheets spanking. Jibsail, which flares off to the right, helps catch and hold prevailing winds. Mainsail covers 160 square feet of dacron cloth.

Moon May Be Coated With 'Fuzz'

By JOSEPH L. MYLER

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A scientist pictured the moon Thursday as covered with fuzz, like a newly picked peach.

If that is the case, you can discard the "fairy castle," "dusty cobweb," and "rock foam" notions of other scientists who have tried to figure out what the moon's surface is like.

The moon fuzz idea was proposed by Dr. Charles R. Warren of the U. S. Geological Survey in the technical weekly "Science." He said it is the most plausible

the coaming as he did so. Mrs. Duncan was just emerging from the cabin as the water sluiced over the coaming.

Kanopolis visitors this summer may get a chance to see Windward in action on a weekend as Captain Duncan, sporting a natty cap and white duck breeches, brings his trim ship around the various coves and cays, always on the lookout for fun in the sun.

When they aren't sailing, Duncan and his wife spend a good bit of time at their farm home near Dartmouth, a spot between Ellinwood and Great Bend.

explanation for observed lunar shadow effects attributed to back-scattering of light.

According to Warren, moon fuzz is about an inch deep and pretty queer stuff, quite different from peach fuzz.

"The fuzz," he said, "consists mostly of empty space, and may resemble a miniature tinker-toy structure or may be more like a loose aggregate of snowflakes or jackstones."

Concordia Boy Killed By Father's Farm Truck

CONCORDIA, Kan. (AP)—Ronald Charles Howley, 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Howley of Clifton, Kan., died in St. Joseph's hospital here Thursday evening of injuries received when he was hit by a truck driven by his father at the home earlier in the day.

The father said he was backing the farm truck out of the drive and did not see the boy.

Pipeline Will Stretch From Bushton to Iowa

OMAHA, Neb. (UPI)—Northern Gas Products Co. Thursday announced the start of construction of its eight-inch pipeline from Bushton, Kan., to Des Moines, Iowa.



FITTING FOR SERVICE takes a bit of knowhow and several manhours. With Able-Bodied Seamen Melvern Schartz (in cap) and Elton Kuhlman giving an assist, Cap'n Charles Duncan readies Windward for the 1963 season at Kanopolis Reservoir. The mast rides in a cushioned cradle during trips to and from the lake, then is stepped into a mast well just for'ard of the cabin and bolted into place between cathedral pillars. Guy wires are dogged down tight with turnbuckles fitted along the gunwales.



TENDER, LOVING CARE is bestowed upon Windward's outfitting by Charles Duncan, master of the schooner, as he prepares for a summer's sailing at Lake Kanopolis. He stands inside the coaming around the cockpit. Deck and cabin are covered with marine canvas. Horizontal spar in Duncans hands is the boom. The 30-foot aluminum mast stands forward of the cabin, flanked by the ogee. Forward hold cover is dark square in extreme left center of picture.



Peaceful view of "Windward" on Lake Kanopolis, Kansas

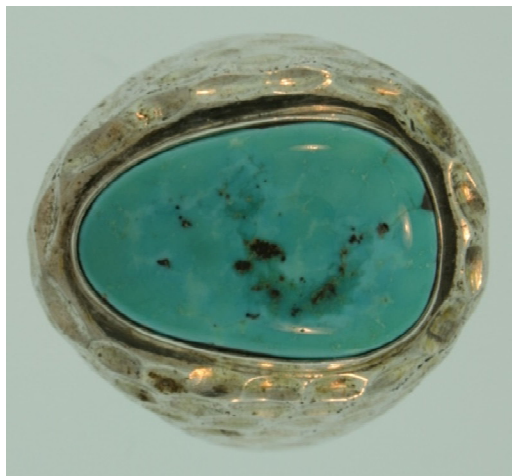


Elton Kuhlman helping with launch

SWIMMING TRUCK? Not quite, but Melvern Schartz sat in a pickup-full of water while shoving Windward on its cradle out far enough to float the 22-foot craft. Duncan scampered around shoving on cradle fittings as he strove to free the ship, which was then berthed with the aid of a five-horse-power "kicker" engine mounted in the stern sheets, abaft the helm.

Men's Rings made by Charles Duncan, Jr.

After his death, these rings were gifted to friends



Top row: Sterling silver & turquoise, Charles made the mounting.

Center row, L. to R.: YAG or zircon (clear stone) in sterling silver, Charles made mounting and cut (faceted) the stone; Pave style diamond ring in yellow gold, Charles made the mounting, diamonds are glued in; Tourmaline (3 dark green stones) in sterling silver, Charles made mounting & cut the stones.

Bottom : Synthetic ruby & 14K yellow gold, Charles cut the stone, purchased mounting.



Jewelry made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



Hummingbird pendant in 14K gold with opal and ruby.

Charles cast the 14K gold mountings for all the items shown and faceted all the stones except the opal.



Pink & green tourmaline pendant, 1994



Aquamarine and CZ pendant, 1996



Topaz pendant, 1992



Topaz ring, 1994

Jewelry made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



**Opal pendants in 14K gold.
Photos taken Mar 1986.**



**Ruth Duncan wearing one of Charles' pendants and holding the
butterfly pendant which was made with a variety of faceted stones in
1974 and won first prize at the Lapidary Club that year.
Photo taken Spring 1975.**



Pug dog pendant in 14K gold



Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



Unfired clay sculpture with metal reins & stirrups, copied from Gericault's "Officer of the Imperial Guard on Horseback", an oil painting by Theodore Gericault in 1812 which was hanging in the Musee du Louvre in Paris as of 2020.

12 inches high,
1993



Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



**Charles with
alabaster horse
head also shown at
left, 12 inches tall,
Aug 1975**

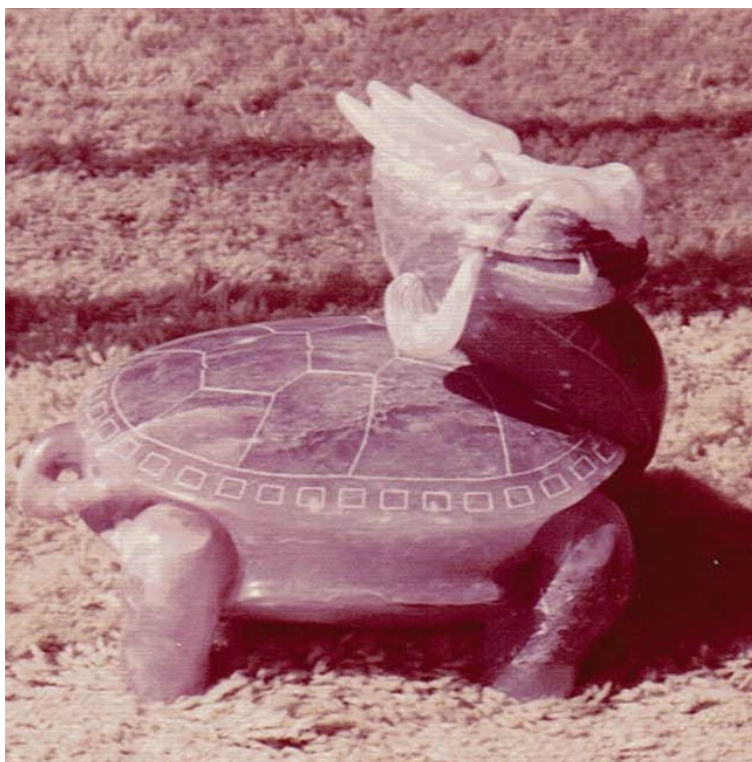


**At right, rose
quartz horse head
with brass eyes and
ears,
4 inches tall,
Apr 1987**

Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



**Masks in fired clay. Male is 11 inches tall and female is 8 inches tall, not including the stands.
Apr 1985**



Turtle/Dragon in alabaster, 1976

Male torso in marble, 12 inches tall, 1985, and female torso in marble, 17 inches tall, 1988. Stands not included in heights.



Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



Frog in obsidian, 3 inches tall, 1986



**Nude female in clay, 26 inches tall, 1994,
later bronzed**

Bamboo tree in metal, 8 foot tall, 1983

Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



Upper left, 14K gold pendant made by Charles for his wife, copying his Greek warrior on horse bas relief sculpture. About 1-3/4" diameter.

Photos show the polished and unpolished marble bas relief Greek warrior on horse. About 17" tall. 1982

The pendant is shown on the polished sculpture.

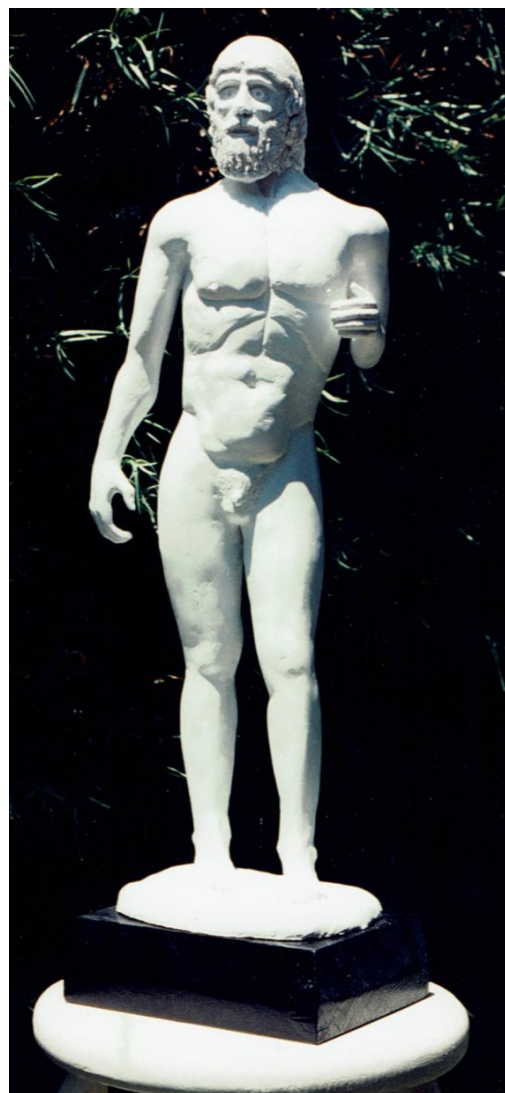
Sculptures made by Charles Duncan, Jr.



**Tiger eye cattails with
18K gold leaves on a geode
5" tall**

**Greek Warrior
clay sculpture, 26" tall
1996**

**Happy, the dog, admiring
the alabaster cat sculpture
77-311 Sioux Dr.,
Indian Wells
14 Oct 1979**



**In 1974,
Charles
welded and
painted a
Ming tree
base for
this coffee
table
shown at
their
home at
77-311
Sioux Dr.,
Indian
Wells. Also
shown is
one of
Ruth's
needlepoint
pillows.
Nov 1979**



Silver pieces made by Charles Duncan, Jr., in 1950s-60s



Ruth and her mother Florence were accomplished seamstresses, but Charles also sewed sails, boat covers, boat accessories, and seat cushions for his boat in 1963 and 1964, kitchen curtains in 1964 and 1969, and from the 1960s to 2000 he altered some of his and Ruth's clothes and linens. He did hire an alteration lady to work on some of their clothes in the 1980s and 1990s. ***I remember Ruth asking for Charles' help with more complex sewing techniques that were easy for him with his talent for spatial relations.***

In the 1950s and early 1960s, Charles attended silver classes in Great Bend and sometimes taught them in the teacher's absence. He made many jewelry items and tableware pieces such as a teapot, creamer, sugar bowl, etc., which were exhibited in art shows. Charles also did engraving and tumbled stones which he made into various jewelry pieces. He and Ruth belonged to the Great Bend Art Association and were pleased to meet a well-known painter, Margaret Sandzen Greenough, at one of the meetings.

When Ruth and Charles moved to Indian Wells in 1968, he attended jewelry, faceting and lapidary classes from 1969-1976 in the local area. In 1974 he attended a gold and silver casting class in Carlsbad and that year he won first prize at the Lapidary Club for a butterfly pendant he made with a variety of faceted stones. That year he also sculpted a dragon in alabaster and carved a rosewood base for it, winning third prize in a creative project contest the following year. He thought it should have easily won first prize. [I still treasure it as it is very detailed and well-done with its beautiful, artistic, Asian-styled base.] In 1975 he also carved a travertine dolphin and an alabaster turtle (first done in clay) in a sculpture class. He sculpted a horse's head which he glued to a base and made several silver necklaces and pendants with inset stones.

In 1976 he carved a statue of a cat from alabaster. In 1982 Charles sculpted a marble Greek horse with rider in bas relief which he noted took him 53 days to complete. In 1983 Charles made an 8-foot-tall metal sculpture of a bamboo tree. In 1985 Charles made more jewelry, sculpted male and female heads of clay which were fired at the College of the Desert, sculpted a marble male torso, and carved an obsidian frog. In 1987 Charles continued with lapidary work, carving a horse's head from rose quartz and making brass ears for it, faceting stones, and casting various jewelry pieces in gold and silver. In 1988 Charles sculpted a female torso from marble and made a silver and opal pendant. In 1989 Charles carved a stone male reclining figure and faceted more stones. In 1990 Charles sculpted a pug dog in marble. In 1991 Charles sculpted two heads from clay.

In Jan 1993 Charles started working on a large clay sculpture of a horse and rider copied from Theodore Gericault's "Officer of the Imperial Guard on Horseback" [an 1812 oil painting hanging in the Musee du Louvre in Paris as of 2020]. In 1994 Charles sculpted a nearly life-size rabbit from marble. In 1996 Charles carved a wax mold which he cast into a gold pendant and sculpted a Greek warrior in clay. In 1999 he faceted several more stones and mounted them in rings he cast in gold. In Dec 2000 he had three of his clay statues cast in bronze. In 2002 Charles repaired a pair of my earrings. [He did such a poor job, that I was unable to wear them afterward. This was uncharacteristic of his previous work, but at age 92, his dementia was starting to affect his craft.] However, that same year he did some faceting and wax carving to make a gold ring, which turned out quite successful. But the stone fractured, and it was at that point, he decided to give it a rest.

One of his earliest sculptures was a carving of the Duncan crest in limestone embedded in an exterior wall of their Dartmouth house in the late 1940s.

From 1972-1996, he faceted gemstones, often several a year. He and Ruth also enjoyed attending art exhibits and art galleries in Palm Desert and nearby towns.

In 1974 Charles welded and painted a very large metal Ming tree base for a glass coffee table. In 1999, he bought a new welding torch for a Christmas present for himself at age 89 and was still welding at age 92!

***Even when Charles worked as a welder at Northrup, he made stainless steel bracelets and rings for

Ruth and me. He always seemed to enjoy working with metal and welded items for himself and friends into his 90s. Another example was his building a large steel Butler barn for which I assembled all the nuts and bolts when I was about ten. He also worked with wood and one of his best pieces was a beautiful walnut drop-leaf desk which I use in my office today.***

He built bottle and wine racks and a wine chest for a friend's liquor store and wooden table and desk dividers for the Great Bend Library in 1964 and a ship model in 1965. In 1976 he made a model of a wooden Chinese junk and in 1992 he made a wooden base for one of his sculptures. In 1995 he made a footstool and in 1999 he built a partition in the garage, installed a new door, and painted both. In Jan 2001 he made a wooden stand for one of his sculptures. That year he also repaired several wicker chairs.

Charles bought a Sinclair 2x81 computer kit by phone on 7 Nov 1982. After it arrived, he tried programming it. This computer is an example of how he loved to keep up on technological advances, i.e. stereo equipment, lighting, television, cameras, etc., like his grandfather, John Henry Henderson. [By contrast, Charles told me that his father was not very mechanical or handy with tools, but his mother was a better "handyman". Charles' father also had a hard time learning to drive.] When Charles was 90, the birthday present he wished for was a new computer, printer, keyboard, and monitor, which Ruth and I gave him. Unfortunately, by then his dementia prevented him from fully utilizing it, despite trying hard to learn lessons from books, a computer technician and me.

When Charles and Ruth lived at Dartmouth, they frequently attended movies, concerts (some with world-renowned performers such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Norman Luboff Choir, William Warfield, Mantovani and His Orchestra, etc.), and lectures. They enjoyed dinners with friends, especially at the Great Bend Petroleum Club which featured good music for dancing, tasty meals, and an elegant atmosphere. When Ruth and Charles lived in Indian Wells, they and sometimes her mother Florence attended many concerts and recitals. When Ruth and Charles visited Great Bend in 1972, they attended a concert by Van Cliburn. In 1973 Charles, Ruth and sometimes Florence and her friends attended concerts in the desert by Itzhak Perlman, Lily Pons, and Tennessee Ernie Ford. During the rest of their lives in Indian Wells, Charles and Ruth attended many recitals, concerts and operas until their declining years. In the summer of 1974, Charles bought a Conn sax, and in late October, he and I played our saxes together. However, his diaries made no subsequent mention of the instrument [nor do I remember what happened to that sax]. In 1978 Ruth and Charles attended a concert at Chapman College in Orange, California, where I played violin in the orchestra.

Charles and Ruth especially enjoyed frequent meals at nice restaurants and friends' homes after they moved to California. They particularly loved dining at the Indian Wells Country Club near their homes in Indian Wells with its wonderful golf course and mountain views.

Charles enjoyed photography and they often entertained people with their home movies and slides. When they lived at Dartmouth, they were members of Great Books classes and sometimes led the discussions.

Charles and Ruth were both avid readers and checked out books from libraries every week or two. He especially liked historical novels, science, and science fiction. Ruth liked biographies and books about music.

***Before the Dist. 3 one-room school house was closed in the early 1950s, we all used to meet there for the monthly neighborhood card parties, playing pitch for prizes. About 30-40 people of all ages used to attend and one month the ladies would bring a variety of salads and the next month they would bring a variety of desserts. Unlike some gag or fun prizes given out today, the prizes were practical. One time I won a five-pound bag of sugar, not such a treat for a pre-teen girl, but much appreciated by my mother. The school was about 3/4 of a mile east of our house and was the school Ruth's father and younger siblings attended and where he later taught. I also attended it for three years. It had two outhouses, one for each sex. Inside the school, there was a hand pump and sink with a tin cup for everyone. The children were expected to sweep the school with red sweeping compound that was in a

large barrel kept in the boys' cloak room (each sex had their own where they hung their coats and put their lunch pails). The sweeping compound was spread on the floor and absorbed the dust as it was swept. The school was converted to a house and additions were made in the late 1950s or 1960s. It was still occupied in 2021.***

Throughout Charles' married life and until he was in his 90s, he enjoyed all kinds of home improvement projects, redecorating, and gardening. When he, Ruth and Florence moved to Indian Wells and had a total of nine different houses to care for (usually two at a time), he had many opportunities to do plumbing, painting, electrical work, carpentry, fence building, audio system installation, and a wide variety of other "handyman" projects. He and Ruth both enjoyed shopping for new furniture, accessories, carpet, drapes, wallpaper, tile, etc. for these houses and visiting model homes to see how they were decorated and furnished. In addition, he, with the help of gardeners, did nearly daily planting, weeding, pruning, fertilizing, repairing sprinklers, and other gardening tasks at these houses. Charles also helped me with many of my home maintenance chores.

Charles took a lot of pride in the appearance and operation of their cars, which they traded every three or four years. Nearly every week he washed and vacuumed their cars, checked tire pressure, oil level, etc., until his early 90s.

He and Ruth took excellent care in the cleanliness and appearance of their homes and spent many hours every week doing extensive house and garage cleaning, vacuuming carpets and upholstery, polishing, scrubbing, etc. This continued until they finally hired a cleaning lady when they were in their 90s. Even then, Ruth continued to do all the dusting until months before her death at age 97.

FLYING WING

On 19 Mar 1981 Charles wrote a letter about the Flying Wing to Clete Roberts, the famous American broadcast journalist. ***Did Mr. Roberts use the information on a broadcast or in print? This was only three years before Mr. Roberts' death on 30 Sep 1984.***

A 6 Feb 1983 *The Orange County Register* article describes the Flying Wing, which John Northrop in 1979 called "by all odds the most valuable idea I ever had." The U.S. Army Air Corps had asked for a design that would stave off the Nazis. ***Charles Duncan, Jr., was a welding supervisor on the first three Flying Wings built.***

On 10 Feb 1983 Charles called Ira Chart at Northrup Corp. about the Flying Wing. Two days later Charles and Ruth drove to the Chino Airport to see the Planes of Fame Aircraft Museum run by Ed Maloney of Corona del Mar who was then restoring a Flying Wing. On 14 May 1983 Charles and Ruth drove to the Chino Airport hoping to go to an air show and see a restored Flying Wing, but the crowds were so big, they did not go in.

In 1987 Charles wrote a letter to *Popular Mechanics* magazine about their Flying Wing article.

On 24 Feb 1997 Charles and Ruth visited the Palm Springs Air Museum and saw a Flying Wing on display. It "brought back memories of when I helped build these planes."

PETS

Charles and Ruth loved riding horses which Charles taught Ruth to do. There were no bridal paths or other people to ride with near the farm in Kansas, so they did not ride nearly as often as they did in Inglewood. As the horses grew older, they were ridden less frequently and both suffered serious falls and injuries in the late 1950s and early 1960s. They had to be put down on 14 Mar 1962, a very sad day. Charles wrote in his diary, "Today saw the end for Music and Maggie---May they wander forever through green pastures & gentle streams." A few days later, he started dismantling the stalls in their horse barn. On 19 Jul 1967 he sold their saddles to Sheplers in Wichita for \$35.00. [Their saddles were English-style and perhaps not as much in demand as Western saddles. Sheplers is still in business in Wichita.]

***Charles and Ruth both loved dogs, cats, and horses. Ruth had always had a dog and their last pet

was a dog. When they lived in Inglewood, they had two Boston Terriers, Peter and Polly, and a Siamese cat, Sam. Sam disappeared after a few years. When they moved to Dartmouth, they still had Peter and Polly and acquired a stray Pointer dog, Queenie, who was very pregnant and soon had eight puppies. Charles drowned the four females in the river and Lorraine gave away the four males to school friends. Charles hated drowning the puppies, but couldn't give them away and didn't want to keep so many. Florence Johnson's 12 Oct 1951 letter to Charles and Ruth says they had taken Peter to the vet. "Too bad, but I expect it's the best thing to do. We will miss him. I expect Polly will miss him, too." Ruth wrote on the back of the letter that Peter died in Oct 1951. Charles and Ruth bought another Siamese cat in Ellinwood and also named him Sam.***

Queenie had to be put to sleep on New Year's Eve 1958, as her abscesses and condition were worse. They suffered the loss of another pet when their Siamese cat, Sammy, had to be put to sleep on 4 Oct 1965, as his illness had progressed beyond possibility of recovery.

In 1973 Charles and Ruth bought a Boston Terrier puppy which they named "Happy," as they got him for Charles' birthday. They bought him in Torrance, California. On 16 Feb 1986 he wrote, "Well, end of the line for dear Happy. He was ill during the night, vomited and restless. We took him to the vets in 1000 Palms & found he had a severe heart murmur & a large tumor in his belly. Seemed in great distress so we had him put to sleep. Very difficult for both of us. We shall miss him greatly after having him with us almost constantly for 13 years. At least his suffering is over now. I cleared out all his things & hope we can adjust." [Happy had been quite sick for the past couple of weeks with frequent trips to the vet. Ruth was also quite sick with the flu at this time, which must have added to the sad atmosphere.] They were both grieving a lot a few weeks later. On 23 Mar 1986 they brought home a female pug they named "Koko" which they bought in Palm Springs and on 2 Apr had her registered with the AKC.

In early Jul 2000 Koko was getting weaker and sicker, and so on the 17th Charles and Ruth had her put to sleep, which was again very sad for them. They greatly missed her as she had been with them almost every day for 14 years.

When Charles and Ruth lived in the desert, they frequently enjoyed cat- and dog-sitting in their home for friends who were traveling.

TRIPS/VACATIONS

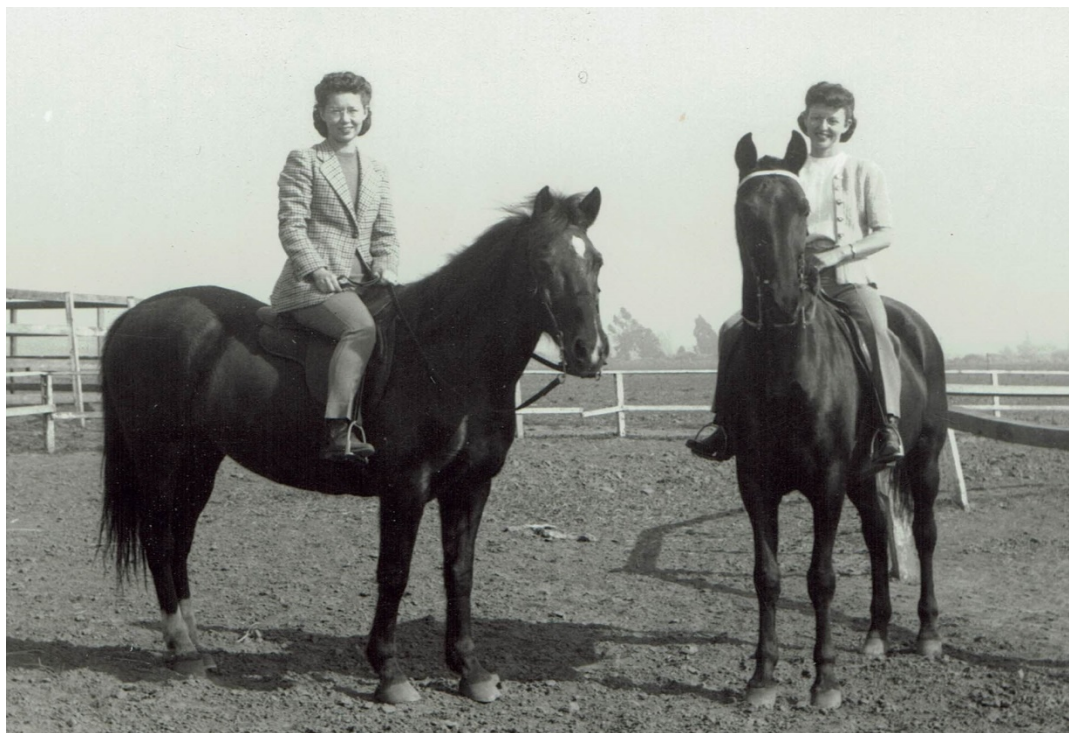
Charles remembered he and his mother taking a boat ride in 1916 or 1917 from San Francisco, where they were living, to Los Angeles to visit his Uncle Max and Aunt Agnes. It was a 500-mile trip and took all day. They took a train back to Oakland and then a ferry to San Francisco, as there were no bridges across the Bay at that time. He remembered seeing the lights of San Francisco coming in at night. There were two of these boats, originally built to be in service on the Great Lakes. One finally foundered and they eventually stopped running them between Los Angeles and San Francisco. They were shallow draft boats and made that run for many, many years.

My diaries show Charles, Ruth and I took short trips to California in 1948 and 1951, brief trips to Colorado in 1952, 1956 and to Yellowstone in 1957.

In addition to trips mentioned elsewhere, in Oct 1965 Charles and Ruth drove to Omaha, Nebraska, where they visited his old high school and the Joslyn Art Museum before returning home the next day.

In mid-Dec 1966 Charles, Ruth and Florence [whose husband had died in May 1966] drove to Palm Springs and Long Beach, where they stayed in two separate small apartments in Palm Springs for several weeks before staying for a few weeks in Long Beach. They were gone for 2-1/2 months and visited many friends and relatives.

In Jun 1970 Charles, Ruth and I took a 10-day car trip to Monterey, Carmel, San Jose, Hearst Castle, and San Francisco.



**Ruth on Maggie and
Dora May Place on
Music at Night,
California,
3 Mar 1946**

Homer and Dora May Place lived on 10th St. in Long Beach. Before marriage, Charles worked for them for several months, lived in a room at their successful saddle shop in Lakewood, and ate meals with them. They repaired saddles, bridles and polo mallets. Homer was Charles' best man when he married.

**Charles Duncan, Maggie, Music, Al Pope
(crouched below), and Ruth Duncan**



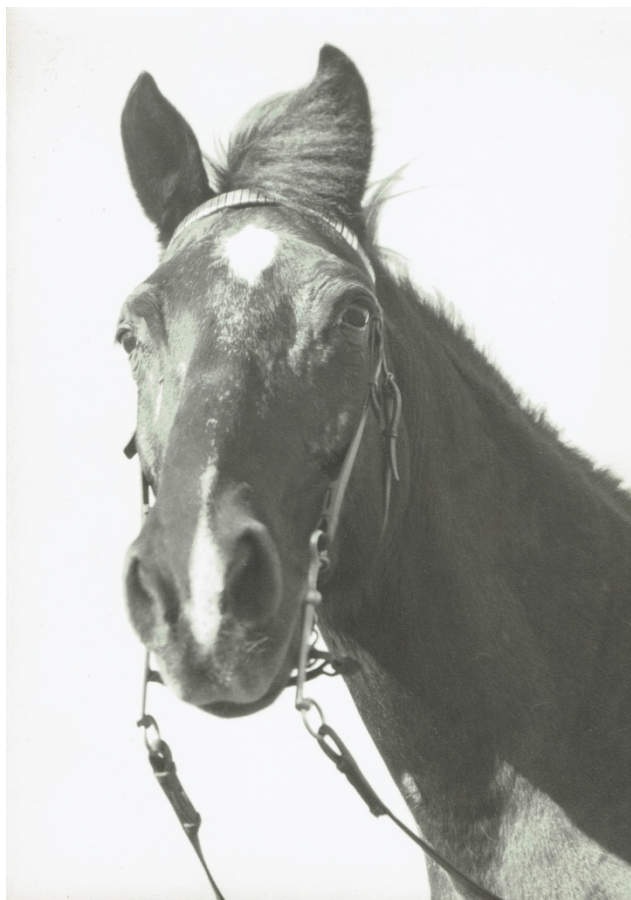
**Peter in the pasture at Dartmouth
in Kansas, Nov 1946**



Polly and Peter

**Photos taken by Al Pope,
about 1946**

**Music at Night (Charles' horse) with Ruth
at Dartmouth in Kansas, Christmas 1946**



Maggie (Ruth's horse)



On 5 Jul 1972 Ruth and Charles flew to Hawaii, visited all four major islands and flew home on 13 Aug, having done lots of sight-seeing, shopping, golfing, swimming, and enjoying entertainment, great meals and scenery.

For the month of Aug 1973, Ruth and Charles rented a cabin in Idyllwild, returning to their Indian Wells home for a day or two several times during the month.

In Sept 1978 they took a 5-day road trip to Santa Rosa to visit some desert friends whose main house was in Santa Rosa. They also did some sight-seeing in Sacramento, Monterey and Carmel.

In early Nov 1980 Charles and Ruth took a short trip to Santa Rosa to visit friends and on to San Francisco and down the coast.

In mid-May 1982 Charles and Ruth drove to Kansas and returned ten days later, stopping in Las Vegas for the first time. This was their first trip without their dog Happy, who was boarded in the desert. They saw the old elevator at Dartmouth partially torn down and the new one [almost a mile away] nearly completed.

In mid-May 1983 they drove to Kansas without the dog for an 8-day trip, stopping to see Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico.

In mid-May 1984 they drove to Kansas without the dog for an 8-day trip, stopping to sight-see in Colorado.

In Oct 1989 Charles and Ruth and I took short trip to Ventura, Solvang and Santa Barbara.

In mid-May 1991 Charles and Ruth took a short trip to Cambria and Hearst Castle and visited his niece Lisa in Cambria.

After they moved to Indian Wells, Charles and Ruth made short, nearly-annual car trips to Kansas to see their farms and friends until 1992, when Charles was 82 and Ruth was 80.

Charles suffered badly from motion sickness and other intestinal problems, so travelling was difficult for him. However, Ruth wished they could have travelled more, going to Europe and big cities and resorts in the U.S.

RESIDENCES

In Dec 1967 Charles, Ruth and Florence drove to Palm Springs, shopped for houses in the area, and on 1 Jan 1968 bought 46-370 Manitou Dr., a partially-furnished Crocker-built house in the Manitou Springs community in Indian Wells. From 1975-1994, Charles served on the board of the Manitou Springs Property Owner's Association, serving for many years as treasurer or secretary-treasurer.

On 9 Apr 1968 Charles, Ruth and Florence returned to Kansas. In Charles' 1968 diary, Ruth recorded Palm Springs' daily temperatures (many were over 100 in the summer), so she may have been considering how uncomfortable living in the desert would be in the summer. Subsequently, she and Charles bought summer houses in coastal Orange County before they moved full-time to Indian Wells in 2004.

In Oct 1968 movers transported their piano and other items to the desert days before Charles, Ruth and Florence drove to Indian Wells to stay in their new house.

On 23 Mar 1969 Ruth and Charles sold their house at Dartmouth.

In 1971 Charles, Ruth and Florence spent the summer in Laguna Beach in a rented house, but made a few trips back to Indian Wells. On 26 Nov, Charles and Ruth were given a tour of the new Eisenhower Hospital in Rancho Mirage with visiting Great Bend friends, Dr. Major and Gertrude Swan. The next day they attended its dedication where they saw Bob and Delores Hope, President Nixon, President Reagan, Vice-President Agnew, Mamie Eisenhower, and many others.

On 10 Feb 1974 Charles and Ruth made an offer on a condominium [small, two-bedroom with distant ocean view] in the Monarch Summit Community in Laguna Niguel. After buying new furniture and accessories, they spent their first night there on 29 May. When they lived at this condo, Charles served on the Monarch Summit Homeowner's Association Board from 1975-1978. He was on the Architectural Committee and spent quite a bit of time in this job in 1976 and 1977.

From 1975-1977, Charles and Ruth went back and forth between Laguna Niguel and Indian Wells, where they saw a lot of Florence, who seldom left her condo. In 1978 Charles and Ruth continued traveling back and forth to their beach house, especially during the summer.

On 29 Jan 1978 Florence died. Ruth was the executor, requiring them to spend a great deal of time with her funeral and business matters. In June, Ruth and Charles sold Florence's condo, bought a brand-new house 2 Jun on Sioux Drive in Indian Wells, and put their old house up for sale. [I recall the main reason for the move was a house had been built behind their old house which blocked a lot of their view of the mountains. The new one had a much better view.] They drove back and forth between the desert and the beach all year and spent a lot of time shopping for furniture and decor for their new house.

On 28 Jun 1979 Charles and Ruth slept in the Sioux Drive house for the first time, having bought it a year earlier. Their old house was sold a few months later. They only went to the beach house a couple of times that year.

In 1980-1982 Charles and Ruth drove back and forth to their beach house several times throughout the year. In 1982 they looked at many model homes in the beach area.

In 1983 Charles and Ruth sold their condo at the beach and bought a house [on a golf course and much bigger than their condo] at Salt Creek [8 Los Monteros, Dana Point] in the summer, moving in on 18 July.

In 1984 Charles and Ruth traveled back and forth between the desert and the beach all year long, often just staying a week or so at either place. On 29 Oct Charles attended a Salt Creek Board meeting and spoke his piece about view infringement and was listened to sympathetically.

In 1985 Charles and Ruth traveled back and forth to their beach house most of the year, often just staying a week or so at either place, especially in the summer. On 22 Jul they attended a meeting of the Laguna Community Council where a new hotel complex was discussed and on 25 Jul Charles attended another meeting about this matter. Then on 27 Jul they received a letter from their neighbor saying he would continue to park in front of their house despite their request that he not do so.

Therefore, they decided to sell the house rather than put up with such an inconsiderate neighbor. They also complained to the homeowners' board about cypress trees on the golf course [blocking their view]. Ruth and Charles then started house-hunting and lot-hunting. On 11 Nov they made a down payment on a lot in Monarch Summit and talked to architects about building a house there.

In Aug 1986 Charles and Ruth asked for their deposit to be returned for the lot they had made an offer on in 1985 and decided not to sell their Monarch Beach house until the next spring. [Ruth told me that building a house at their age was too much to take on.]

On 17 Jan 1987 Charles and Ruth listed their Monarch Beach house for sale and accepted an offer on 20 Feb. Then they went house-hunting in the beach area, and on 5 Mar, their offer was accepted for a partially furnished house at 26401 Calle Roberto in San Juan Capistrano, and they moved in on 19 May. They spent months preparing the old house for final sale and repairing and updating the new house, buying furniture, accessories, etc., for the much larger San Juan Capistrano house. Most of 1988, 1989 and 1990 was spent remodeling and redecorating this house.

From 1992-1994 Charles and Ruth drove back and forth between their desert and beach homes, usually just staying at the beach home a week or two at a time. By 1995 they were staying at the beach home

two or three weeks at a time.

On 22 Oct 1994 Charles wrote that today would have been Agnes' 83rd birthday and now he has lost both his sister and his brother. [Agnes died in 1952 and George had just died on 9 Jul 1994.]

On 19 Jul 1997 a realtor listed Charles and Ruth's San Juan Capistrano house with some furniture and an offer was accepted on 29 July. They shopped for another house in Indian Wells and moved everything out of their San Juan Capistrano house on 3 Sep, with escrow closing on 9 Sep. They made an offer on a house and a lot at 77-924 Cottonwood Cove in Indian Wells. Escrow closed on the house on 2 Oct and on the lot on 21 Jan 1998. They moved in on 17 Dec 1997 after much work was done on the house. This was a busy year for them as they sold two houses and bought another one. They moved furniture and all their belongings from two houses into one, minus furniture that was sold with the houses, given to friends and me, and donated.

As Charles was 87 and Ruth 85, they found freeway driving between the desert and the beach too difficult and stressful at their ages, so decided to have just one home. However, I was disappointed they sold their San Juan Capistrano house and gave up living in Orange County because I knew it would require much more commuting to the desert for me. I also hated the 100+ degree heat in the desert from May to Oct. But they had more friends in the desert and most of their doctors were there. They also liked the small town feel of Indian Wells and Palm Desert and knew their way around better than in San Juan Capistrano and south Orange County. Also, their dog didn't get fleas in the desert, but did at the beach. They didn't like freeway driving which is nearly a requirement in Orange County. Ruth told me another reason they chose the desert over San Juan Capistrano was that I didn't visit them that often in San Juan Capistrano, but I was working full-time and had a part-time residential rental business, so visiting them once a month was about all I could manage considering the distances to both places. San Juan Capistrano is 25 miles from my home and Indian Wells is 115 miles. Charles thoroughly enjoyed nearly all of the home improvement and redecorating projects in all the houses they owned and always found things to change and improve everywhere they lived. Ruth was more content to stay put and not move so often.

In 1998 they settled in to their Cottonwood Cove home and sold the Sioux Dr. house on 9 Jan. They still attended concerts but did not have as many meals with friends. Charles was enjoying home maintenance projects, but he began to have trouble balancing the check book.

In 2001 Charles forgot to mail income tax returns on time, forgot how to set the table, and had a memory lapse while answering a telephone call. He and Ruth were having many health problems and they talked to me about moving to Orange County to be closer to me. [Charles was more interested in moving than was Ruth.]

In 2002 a friend and I spent most of the year intently house-shopping for Charles and Ruth. In October Charles wrote that he had a spell of not being able to think of words he wanted to say.

On 3 Jan 2003 I drove Ruth and Charles to Orange County and a friend and I showed them a couple of houses they might consider buying. On 12 Mar Ruth started writing in the diary for most of the year and said Charles was quite confused and had drunk a lot. The next day she wrote that he said he was very depressed, suicidal and had been drinking a lot. I arrived on 13 Mar and left on 24 Mar, but returned on 26 Mar. The ambulance came and took him to the hospital, but was released the same day. He fell twice and hurt his arm badly. He was very dizzy for several days afterwards, was using a walker and was very weak. On 23 Mar I drove them to see an assisted living facility which they didn't like as it was small and depressing. I drove them to Orange County on 1 Apr to see four houses for sale and left the next day. Ruth had to give Charles his showers. On 5 Apr I drove them to see two other houses and Ruth wrote that she liked the 2150 Collier, Tustin, house pretty well. The next day, they signed papers agreeing to buy it. I left on 7 Apr, but made weekly trips that summer, packing and moving their belongings to my house and to the Collier house. By early May they had listed their Cottonwood Cove house. On 19 May escrow closed on the Collier house. On 22 Jun Charles fell by

tripping on a cord and hurt his face. On 27 Jun he was bitten on his foot by a black widow spider and had a bad reaction. On 1 Jul Charles was very confused and couldn't dress himself. On 23 Jul I drove Ruth and Charles to see their Collier house. That summer my friend and I painted the entire inside of the 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom house, installed new kitchen shelves, repaired sprinklers, washed windows, cleaned the house and garage, put away nearly all kitchen items and linens, and arranged for all new carpeting to be installed.

On 26 Sep 2003 my friend and I helped Charles and Ruth move into their Collier house. Ruth found many things she didn't like about the house---one bathtub too deep, another too narrow; lights not working; her electric blanket not working; computer, TV and remote not working; 3-car garage too tight for two cars and workshop; etc. On 8 Oct Ruth wrote she wishes they had never moved. She didn't know how to drive to the grocery store or how to work the stove and was disgusted and very depressed. She said they never should have moved at their age as they don't know anyone and don't know where anything is.

On 20 Oct she again wrote that they should never have moved as they don't know anyone and don't know how to get anywhere. She didn't like the hairdressers she'd gone to. On 8 Nov Charles was very quiet. After his shower, he was drying himself while the water was still pouring on him. He was very fuzzy in his thinking. On 12 Nov he was very depressed and told Ruth he wanted to return to the desert, though they continued redecorating. On 20 Nov a doctor said tests showed Charles has a lack of brain cells, but not necessarily Alzheimer's. On 8 Dec Ruth wrote she is still sorry they moved.

In 2004 Ruth wrote most of the diary. On 21 Jan Charles still wanted to go back to the desert and the next day they called their desert realtor to find a house for them there. When Ruth and Charles told me they were planning to move back to the desert, I was very upset, as my friend and I had spent all year finding this house (only 5 miles from me), packing and moving most of their small belongings and furniture, and getting this house ready for them to move into. On 31 Jan and 21 Feb their desert realtors picked up Ruth and Charles and drove them to the desert to show them several houses for sale. They made an offer on a house at 77-305 Black Mountain, Indian Wells, which was accepted and then quickly sold their Tustin house. They moved into their Black Mountain house in mid-April. Ruth was handling all the home maintenance problems---security system, phone, TV, car servicing, etc. Charles could no longer drive, as a doctor wrote the Dept. of Motor Vehicles about his dementia and his license could not be renewed.

In 2005 Ruth was still taking care of home maintenance problems along with a few neighbors and a friend of mine. In mid-March, Charles was very confused, took a very long time to shower, and had delusions. He was admitted to the hospital on 21 Mar after complaining about pains in his back, head, and eyes. On 25 Mar he was admitted to a convalescent hospital where he received physical therapy to help him walk and gain strength. On 20 Apr he was admitted to an Alzheimer's unit of Brighton Gardens, a large retirement facility, where he celebrated his 95th birthday on 22 Apr with about 20 friends. He fell in August, broke his hip, and had to be hospitalized. From there, he went to the convalescent unit of Brighton Gardens and finally back to his room in the Alzheimer's unit. His mental capacity was very slow and he wanted to go home for months, but when we took him home in early October, he didn't recognize anything, even statues he had made. It was very sad. He used a wheelchair and had to be fed. He talked very little. In September he had pneumonia. Ruth hired a part-time private nurse for him for several months. I visited Ruth and him several times. In October he was eating very little. He had hospice care for several days before he died on 18 November, and afterwards, I stayed with Ruth. Ruth ended the year by saying on 1 Jan 2006, "A depressing day. All alone." [I had left on 30 Dec after a two-week stay.]

Volume 1 - John Henry & Ann Craggs Henderson and oldest children Vernon & Annie with descendants

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

OFFICE OF
THE STATE REGISTRAR
OF VITAL STATISTICS

This is to certify that
this is a true copy of
the document filed in
this office, if validated
on the reverse.

BARBARA A. MYERS, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
AND STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

BY *Mark L. Shields*
Mark L. Shields, Chief
VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH

DEC 3 1981

This Certifies That

Charles Duncan Jr
of Long Beach, California
and
Ruth Lorraine Johnson
of Long Beach, California

were by me united in the bonds of

Holy Matrimony

According to the ordinance of God and the laws of the
State of California

On the 12th day of June

In the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and

thirty-seven
At Long Beach, California
Rev. Fred F. Shields
Minister of the Gospel

Witnessed by

Mrs. Dorothy Oliver Homer Place

The record of the marriage of
Charles Duncan, Jr., & Ruth Lorraine Johnson
on 12 Jun 1937, p. 1 of 3

An undated article in an unnamed newspaper
describing the wedding day of Charles
Duncan, Jr., and Ruth Lorraine Johnson

Marries at Home



MRS. CHARLES DUNCAN JR.,
before her marriage last
night, was Miss Ruth Lorraine
Johnson.

Ceremony Unites Pair

AT A PRETTY ceremony per-
formed last night at 8 o'clock
by Rev. Fred F. Shields at the D.
C. Johnson home, 244 Ximeno Ave-
nue, Miss Ruth Lorraine Johnson
became the bride of Charles Dun-
can Jr. Preceding the ceremony
Mrs. Leah Dane Seykorah, violin-
ist, played "Dream of Love."

The bride, who is the daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson,
wore a frock of blue marquisette
and carried a bouquet of American
Beauty colored dahlias and bache-
lor buttons. She was attended by
Mrs. George Oliver Jr., who wore
pink with corsage of gardenias.
Homer Place acted as best man.

The home was prettily decorated
in American Beauty roses and del-
phinium. Following the ceremony
a wedding supper was served to
twenty-five at the Lafayette.

The bride, who is well known in
Long Beach musical circles, is a
graduate of Wilson High School
and Junior College. Mr. Duncan,
who is the son of Mr. and Mrs.
Charles Duncan, 286 Redondo Ave-
nue, is a graduate of Poly High
School. He is employed at the
Northrop Aircraft Company in
Inglewood. They will make their
home in Los Angeles.

**Charles Duncan, Jr., and Ruth Lorraine Johnson's
marriage announcement**

**Marriage Record, pp. 2 & 3 of the marriage of Charles
Duncan, Jr., & Ruth Lorraine Johnson on 12 Jun 1937.**

Wedding Guests

Mrs. D. C. Johnson
C. Duncan
Mrs. Fanny S. Duncan
Charles Duncan
George Duncan
Leah Dana Szykora
Margaretta Nelson
Mrs. D. W. Lohr
Ronald W. Lohr
Mrs. Sadie A. Johnson
Mrs. Alice Lash
Clara P. Johnson
Pearl B. Johnson

Wedding Guests

Clarence Johnson
Mrs. Lora May Place

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson
announce the marriage of their daughter
Ruth Lorraine
to
Mr. Charles Duncan, Jr.
on Saturday, the twelfth day of June
nineteen hundred thirty-seven
Long Beach, California



**Ruth, wearing her wedding dress, with her
husband Charles Duncan, Jr., at their house
at 2506 Spaulding St., Long Beach,
California, which was owned by D. C. and
Florence Johnson. Photo taken about 1938.**



**Charles and Ruth Duncan
at D. C. and Florence
Johnson's home,
244 Ximeno Ave.,
Long Beach, California,
27 Mar 1938**



Proud Papa!

**Ruth holding
baby Lorraine on
27 Mar 1938**



**Charles, baby Lorraine, and
Ruth Duncan. Apr 1938**





**Ruth Duncan
holding baby
Lorraine,
2506 Spaulding St.,
Long Beach,
California, 1938**



**Charles Duncan, Jr.,
2506 Spaulding St.,
Long Beach, 1938**

* * * *

Stork Shower.

Mrs. Charles Duncan Jr. was honored by a stork shower recently, given by Mrs. Kathryne Anshutz and Mrs. Leo Yoeman in the latter's home. Games were played, with favors for all.

Special honors were won by Mrs. Jack Price and Mrs. Allen Brown.

Others present were Miss Kathleen French and Mesdames William Kalliher, Donald Lohr, Kenneth Cummings, Homer Place, hostesses and honoree.

Undated article by unknown newspaper shows Mrs. Donald Lohr attended Ruth Duncan's baby shower.

**Ruth and baby Lorraine Duncan at
D. C. & Florence Johnson's home,
244 Ximeno Ave, Long Beach,
California, June 1938**



D. C. and Florence Johnson's house on Ximeno, Long Beach



Ruth Duncan with the giant sunflower, the state flower of Kansas, Ruth's birthplace, about 1938



Florence Johnson holding granddaughter Lorraine, 16 Jun 1938



Charles Duncan, Jr., is 6th from the left in the 2nd row.
 Douglas Aircraft Co., Inc.
 Northrup Division
 Welding, Spot Welding, and Metal Fittings Dept.
 El Segundo, California,
 19 May 1938



12 Apr 1939 love letter from Charles to Ruth, front



Long Beach, Calif.
Apr. 12, 1939.

Dearest Ruth,

It sure seemed strange to come home without you there but I guess I could get used to it in a few years or so. Thank goodness it will only be two more nights. Have you begun to miss me yet?

I had another tough day today and came home ~~that~~ dirty as a pig but Marty says tomorrow I will go on welding rock-pit enclosures in the welding shop so I will break out a clean shirt. I was rather pleased to find that he had a paper bag laid away with my name on it and containing the tips and tip cleaners and my stamp that I turned in six months ago. He must have been pretty sure I was coming back eventually.

(OVER)

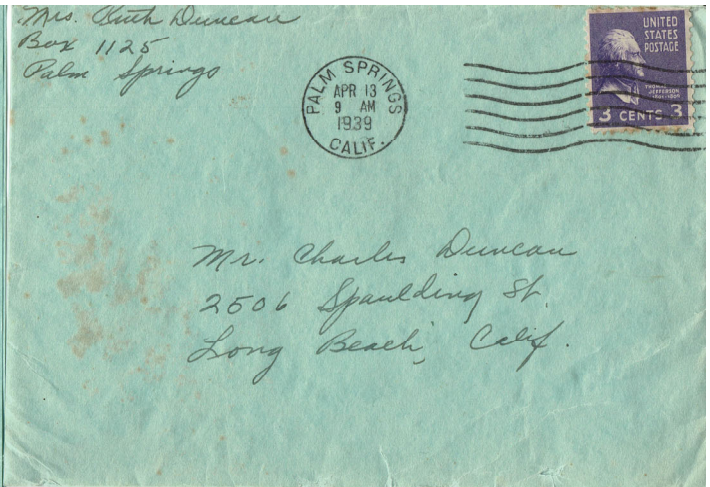
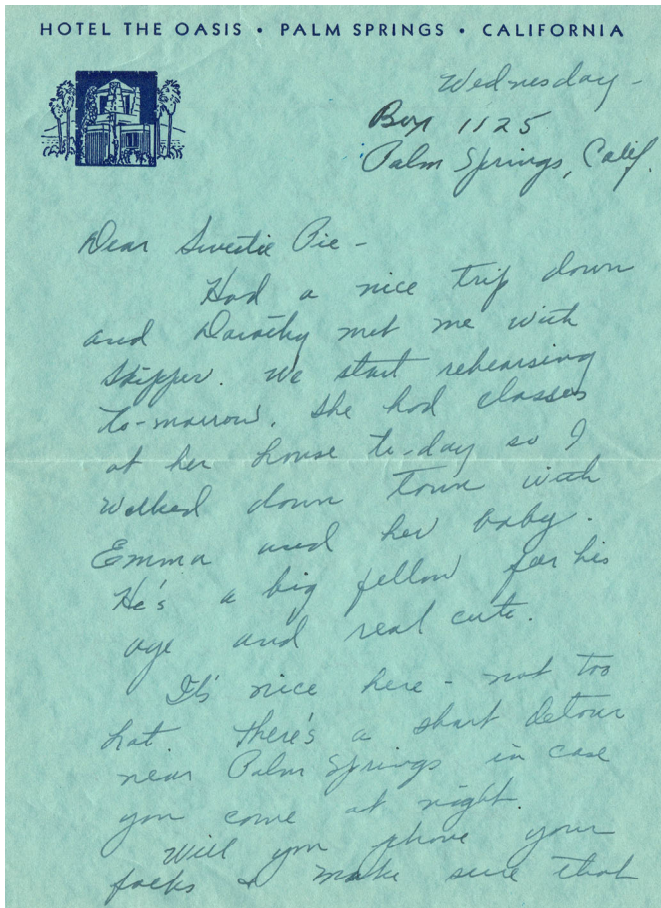
12 Apr 1939 love letter from Charles to Ruth, back

How is the recital and everything coming along?
I suppose you and Dot have been rehearsing today.
I am over at your folks and we have just eaten. I am
supposed to go to my folks tomorrow night so I guess
I won't starve for food even if I do for some love
and kisses and muggins and stuff.

Well, good-night sweetie, and lots and lots
and heaps of love from your one and only ever loving
husband.

Charles

13 Apr 1939 letter to Charles from Ruth in Palm Springs



Below is a pressed flower included in the letter.



George doesn't come over Fri. for a lesson?

Did you have to work overtime to-day?

I got a post card of Palm Canyon that I'm sending to Lorraine. Seemed awful funny to sign it "Mom".

Mr. Reedy is here & will be as long as Dorothy stays, so let's say.

Don't forget to bring your swim suit, we may be able to go swimming.

I guess this is a prize example of the kind of letter one shouldn't write if one wants to be popular & clever & witty etc. but

writing to my one & only husband has got me all agog.

Well, darling, take good care of yourself and hurry down Saturday and remember I love you like everything.

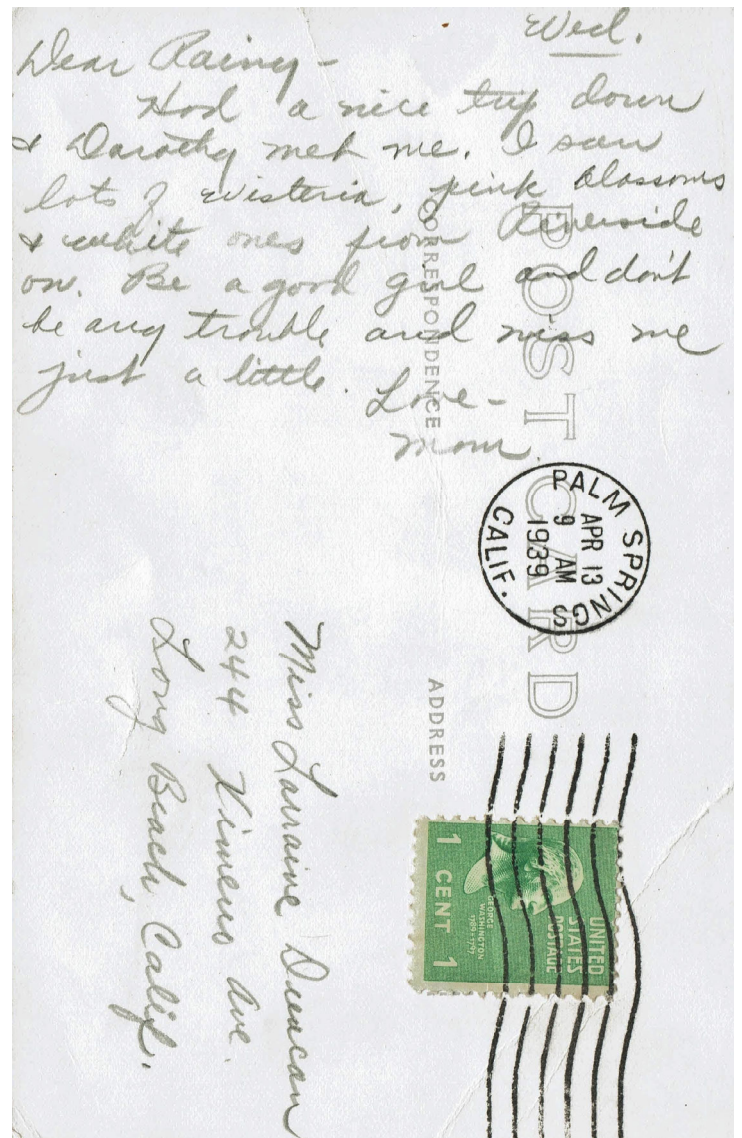
All my love -
Ruth



**Ruth Duncan's postcard to her daughter
Lorraine who was staying with
grandparents D. C. and Florence Johnson
13 Apr 1939**

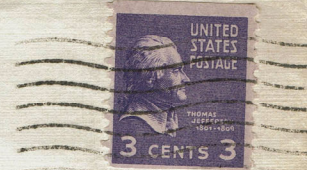


**Lorraine and Ruth
at Ruth's parents'
house on Ximeno,
Long Beach
Apr 1939**



13 Apr 1939 letter from Charles to Ruth

2506 Spaulding St.,
Long Beach, Calif.



Mrs. Ruth Duncan,
% Mrs. Dorothy Oliver,
Box 1125,
Palm Springs,
Calif.

Long Beach, Calif.
Apr. 13, 1939.

Dear Sweetheart,

I don't know whether this will reach you before I do but I'll send it anyway. It sure seems lonesome to come home from my folks where I ate this evening to find the house dark and cold and empty but in another day I'll be seeing you again. It has been very cold and windy today and I am glad to be home again. I went into the shop today and welded cock-pit enclosures. I was certainly glad to get off of welding those jigs and back on some nice particular sort of work where I could really do some nice welding instead of just plastering stuff together.

How has everything been going? I haven't heard from you yet. I sort of expected to get a letter today but I guess you have been pretty busy. I will start after breakfast Sat. morning and will probably get there by noon. Again, lots of love and kisses, dear, and think of me often and lovingly. I must get to bed now so good-night once more, sweetheart

Love from
Charles

**21 Jun 1939 letter from Ruth Lorraine Duncan to D. C. Johnson
as though written by 1-year-old Lorraine, p 1**

2506 Spaulding St.
Long Beach, Calif.
June 21, 1939.

Dear Granddod -

I received your letter only Ma Ma
opened it first. Arent mothers the
limit? I'm glad you had a nice
trip. I'm going to travel myself
one of these days maybe on the
DC 4 only probably by that time
it will be an antique. Mom,
dod & Grandma Johnson saw it
up at Douglas in Santa Monica last
Sunday - They not only saw it but
went thru it. Uncle Don & Aunt
Agnes did too.

I guess I've been a pretty
good girl here lately. I've only
had a half a dozen or so spankings

**21 Jun 1939 letter from Ruth Lorraine Duncan to D. C. Johnson
as though written by 1-year-old Lorraine, p 2**

two or three kicks and a couple of punches in the nose. You see my folks don't want me to be spoiled and they figure if I learn obedience it'll be easier to line work and grow up with that good disposition you were talking about.

I stayed with Grandpa Johnson last Sat. & Sun. nights all night. Sat. night Mama & Daddy went to the Palomar in L.A. and Sunday afternoon I stayed with Grandpa & Grandpa Duncan while Mom & Dad & Grandpa. Saw the airplane then they took me to Grandpa's for supper & I stayed all night while Mama & Daddy went back to Grandpa & Grandpa Duncans & visited awhile. Daddy came & got me Monday noon.

To-day I had a small sunbath out in the front yard & the little boy (he's really just a baby only 3 months old - I feel ancient beside him!) & his mama were over while we were outside.

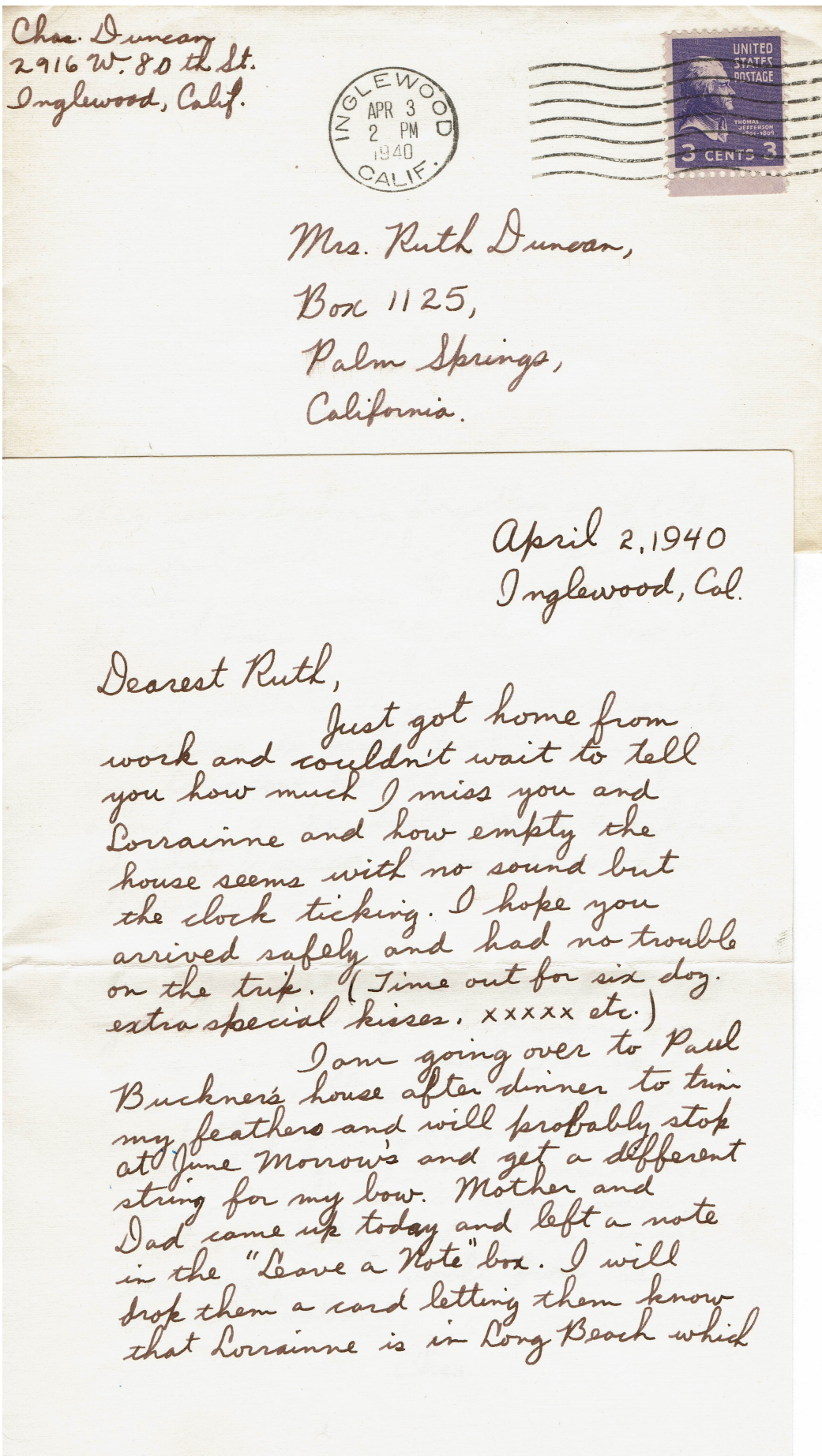
Oh, yes, mama wants to know how the wheat is turning out but I know you're a lot more interested in your new car. (mama just said "oh yeah?")

Well, write real soon, Granddad & hurry home only don't hurry too fast or you might skid like I do sometimes when I slip on a ~~maggie~~ magazine.

P.S. Mom & Daddy say "hello". I guess they're not very good about writing like we are.
L.E.D.

Lots of Love
your Granddaughter,
Lorraine.

2 Apr 1940 letter from Charles to Ruth, p. 1



Note:
Charles'
archery
hobby

2 Apr 1940 letter from Charles to Ruth, p. 2

they seem to have forgotten as I told them last week. They were probably watching her when I told them and did not hear me. You know how it is.

I made arrangements for a couple of fellows to ~~pick~~ pick me up starting tomorrow but they will be by about 7:15, practically before breakfast. At that I guess it is better than taking our car.

Well sweetheart, I seem to have run out of news except to tell you that I love you tremendously and miss you ever so much. The next three days will seem like ages. I am putting your good night note on my pillow every time I make the bed so I will see it again when I retire. With loads of love to the best wife in the world from her devoted husband,

Chas.

2 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 1



Palm Springs
Tuesday 6:00 P.M.

Dear Senator Pie -

Mrs. H. that is I left L.B.
at 10:30 - stopped at Livermore
for a snack & Dot had me
drive the last 20 miles or so on
in. Arrived home 3:30 to 5:30.
Have to change key in two places
for Marilyn (the cutting down with)
to sing to. How fun! Also
"Nola" goes almost too slow.
Oh, well -

We're getting dinner now -
rather Dorothy is. Mrs. H.
is going to eat with Ethel
& maybe stay all night

2 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 2

with her, (I hope). So far we
haven't seen George yet.

Don't forget to empty the ice-
box pan.

You should see Dorothy's petunias
& pansies. The petunias are
practically climbing all over the
house. It was nice here this
afternoon but cooler now.

I wish you were here beside
me mugging & what not. I
slept with mom last night &
hardly slept at all. I'll take
my bed & you my time.

I noticed another saddle shop
on the right side of the street. Dot
says she heard they're doing very
well, too.

I'm sore stained. We're having calf
steak, carrots, spuds & tomato salad.
I think if I could just a little
whipped cream on top I could
finish him off for dessert.

Saturday can't possibly come
soon enough. Please write
to me darling. I missed you
something awful from its minute.
I saw you drive off last night.
It was like leaving my heart
behind.

yours forever & ever
with all my love -
Ruth

3 Apr 1940 letter from Charles to Ruth, p. 1

Inglewood, Calif.

Apr. 3, 1940.

Dear Sweetheart,

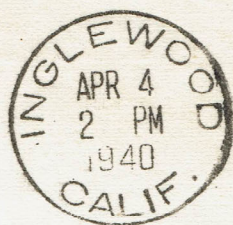
Am finding it very hard to get along without you although the meals are running along alright. I went over to Paul Buckner's last night and trimmed my feathers, then did the dishes, made my lunch and went to bed. Had a nose-bleed right before going to dinner and had a beautiful time trying to keep my face straight and eat. Had a busy day and mowed the front lawn upon getting home. Was cornered by an insurance man, a friend of Geo. Koch's in L. B. and spent some time getting rid of him. You know me, it only takes me 45 min. to tell them no! Also discovered that the tax assessor had very thoughtfully chosen this week to call when we were both away, leaving a card on the front door saying, will be back tomorrow. Well dear, am getting awful hungry so will say good-bye again

3 Apr 1940 letter from Charles to Ruth, p. 2

with all my love and loads of kisses.

Charles.

*2916 W. 80th St.
Inglewood, Calif.*



*Mrs. Ruth Duncan,
Box 1125,
Palm Springs,
Calif.*

3 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 1



Palm Springs
Wed. April 3, 1940

Dearest.

To-day is very nice and balmy.
I'm wondering if it's warmed
up at home.

Last night Bob & I walked down
to the bowling alley after supper
and watched George bowl in a
tournament. And in walked
Adolphe Menjou & his wife Verree
Teasdale & two other couples. They
bowed directly in front of where
we were sitting. He is quite tan,
iron gray hair but looked younger
than I'd imagine. Not so fancy
under the eyes. She is extremely
slender & blonde. Looked a lot

Adolphe Menjou
was a famous
Hollywood movie
star who was
married to
Verree Teasdale at
the time of this
letter.

3 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 2

like Shirley McCuskeys mother. Ethel said Bing & his wife were in the store & bought 4 prs. of tiny swimming trunks.

Mrs. H. & Ethel ate together & saw a show & visited here late at night but Mrs. H. stayed here all night so we slept together. I don't think I slept a wink but maybe I did.

This morning we walked down town & stopped by Ethel's place & saw her a minute. She & I are planning on going bicycle riding to-morrow morning early.

Little Dickie next door squalls quite a bit so it seems real homelike.

Priced turquoise necklaces & the cheapest I saw was \$5.95-

I guess Mrs. H. is planning on going home with us. I wish she didn't come. It kind of spoils the fun for me. I'd rather ride home alone with you. Guess I'm silly.

How are you behaving yourself? Maybe you'd better eat at Long's instead of Sally's. And don't eat only!

How does the yard look? Are you doing any weeding? Weeds don't seem to grow down here.

Don't forget to empty the ice box pan.

Look, I just saw a black coupe drive by real slow & my heart skipped a beat.

I sure hope there's a letter for me to-day.

Seem like we fool away a lot of time just sticking around the house. I like being outside more when it's so nice.

Sure wish you were here to keep me warm at night. I guess Rev. will sleep at Jack & Emma's not right when you're here & that's her

mother will bunk together. I sure like my own bed & you in it.

I wrote a letter to Lorraine to-day. But frankly I miss you lots more. It's sure hard for me to write what I'd like to say but there's really nothing new about it - just I love you and I miss you and gosh Saturday will never come.

Don't drive too fast, will you darling?

I feel kind of sneezy. Hope I don't catch cold.

See you Saturday, sweetheart.

all my love.

Ruth

4 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 1

Box 1125
Palm Springs
Calif.



Mr. Charles Duncan
2916 W. 80th St.
Inglewood
Calif.

Palm Springs
Thurs. April 4, 1940

Dearest Sweetheart -

Just came from the box office
and found your letter. It's the
nicest letter I ever got. (XVXXXXX)
multiplied by 10,000,000,000
100,000,000,000

Ethel and I went bicycle riding
this morning from 7:30 to 8:30.

I sure stiffened up. Put my
fur coat on the bed last night
so I slept a little better. I
sure don't like going to bed
these days. I'm sure be glad when

Saturday comes.
I mentioned yesterday while talking to Ethel & Mrs. H. that when we go home we had rather planned on going to India & maybe back by S. S. Mrs. H. isn't keen about that so may not go back with us. (I thought she might not be that 'why I mentioned it') anyhow we could pretend we're going that way & if she ~~decides~~ decides to go with

4 Apr 1940 letter from Ruth to Charles, p. 2

us we could just skip it & if she doesn't we could skip it anyhow if you like. I'd much rather ride home with you alone. Just an old romantic married woman.

How did your feathers turn out? Look, that is early to go to work? How come they want to start so soon?

Too bad your folks missed us. I wrote them a card last night with a pretty picture of Palm Canyon in it.

Charles, I hate to be critical but you misjudged your daughter's name. I really thought you should know.

I have about \$1.75 of pretty money left. But I think Mrs. H. Ethel & I will dine out to-night at a Chinese place. I've helped some with the groceries but not a great lot.

Ethel & I played Double Solitaire last night & got the giggles so bad I was crying. We each won

a game & then bet cokes for the 4th & 5th for the loser to pay for on the third game. I lost of course, but it was so much fun it was worth it.

The flowers here are gorgeous. Emma has a pretty Martha Washington ~~geranium~~ geranium that has the sweetest smelling leaves. She said I could take a slip. Remind me of it if I forget, because I'd sure like to have one.

Charles, if you're half as lonesome as I am you're awfully empty inside. I have a constant feeling of expectancy. Saturday will never come. Look, here it is only Thursday. I remarked about how fast the time goes here & I agreed with her but I really didn't agree inside me. It's seemed much longer than 2 1/2 days.

We're rehearsing to-day again, to-morrow afternoon & Sat. morning.

Well, me for a shower. I feel rather grimy.

Sweet, you're the bestest, most beautiful, darlings, nicest, adarablest, sweetest-est of a husband there ever was. I really can appreciate you all the more after being away a few days even though I can't love you any more. That's impossible! There isn't any more love left. You've got it all.

This will be my last letter sweet. Till we meet - with all my love to the sweetest guy I know.

Ruth

244 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, 21 Apr 1940



Ruth and Lorraine Duncan



Charles and Ruth



**Four Generations:
Ruth Duncan (nee Johnson), Florence Johnson (nee Lash),
Alice Lash (nee Scott), and in front is Lorraine Duncan**

**Charles and Ruth's new home at 2916 W. 80th Street,
Inglewood, California, Jul 1940**



Charles & Ruth's home at 2916 W 80th St., Inglewood, California, 27 Oct 1941



**Tang horse
against hooked rug**





Lorraine and Ruth Duncan at the new Inglewood house



Charles, Lorraine, and Ruth Dec 1940

An undated *Orange County Register* article about the Flying Wing. Charles was a welding supervisor on the first three Flying Wings that were built. On 12 Feb 1983, Charles and Ruth drove to Chino Airport to visit the Planes of Fame Aircraft Museum run by Ed Maloney of Corona del Mar who was restoring a Flying Wing. On 14 May 1983, they tried to attend a big air show at that airport but the crowds were too big.

Flying Wing may sweep once again across the sky

By Patrick Mott
Register staff writer

It came at you like the edge of a knife, swift and almost invisible, like some unearthly creation out of H.G. Wells.

It was designed to be the wonder weapon that could save America from a Nazi invasion, and for a time in the 1940s it had more than a few Southern Californians convinced the Martians had landed.

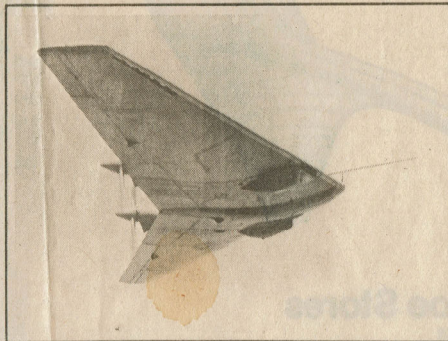
Today that Buck Rogerslike creation of one of the world's foremost aviation pioneers is being readied to fly again by a group of Tustin-based volunteers who intend to reconstruct what they say will be the world's only airworthy flying wing.

The Flying Wing Restoration Project is an effort to restore to flying condition what probably was the most radical aircraft of its day. The brainchild of the pioneering aircraft designer, John K. Northrop, the flying wing was constructed in limited quantities during the 1940s for experimental purposes and later under an Air Force contract.

But when the contract was canceled abruptly in 1949 after only 15 flying wings had been built, Northrop cut the graceful planes up and scrapped them.

Except for two.

One, a twin-engine propeller-driven prototype, rests, flightless, in the Air and Space Museum of the



Northrop N9M-B during early phase of test program.

Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., a static memory of a star-crossed leap into the future.

The other, likewise a prototype, sits in pieces in a south Los Angeles warehouse — being refitted once again for the air.

The restoration project was begun by Ed Maloney of Corona del Mar, the founder of the Planes of Fame Air Museum at Chino Airport. Maloney said he acquired

one of the original N9M-B prototype flying wings from the Northrop Corp. 25 years ago and displayed it at his aircraft museum when it opened in 1957.

But the N9M-B — which had been used as a trainer for pilots who would later fly the much larger versions of the flying wing — was not airworthy and remained an immobile curiosity until nine months ago.

It was then that Maloney decided to refit the aircraft for flight as "a tribute to John Northrop." Maloney and several volunteers began to solicit private donations to defray the cost of the restoration, which Maloney estimated would be between \$150,000 and \$200,000. A Tustin post office box was rented for donations; a warehouse in south Los Angeles was leased and a team of a dozen men — some of them former Northrop engineers who had worked on the original flying wing project — began to take the N9M-B apart and put it back together again with rejuvenated parts.

The restoration, Maloney said, continues somewhat slowly, since the rebuilders must obtain parts, or specifications for the manufacture of parts, from the companies that supplied the original Northrop project. So far, about \$20,000 to \$25,000 in donations has been received. Maloney estimated the reconstruction would be complete within two years.

Please see WING/A24

WING: Craft designed to stave off the Nazis

FROM A3

The flying wing will be on display in an incomplete state during an aircraft display at Chino Airport the weekend of May 14 and 15, said Maloney.

The flying wing, which John Northrop in 1979 called "by all odds the most valuable idea I ever had," was one of the most farsighted working aircraft designs of its day. It was the result of years of research by Northrop, but it came to fruition, in a sense, out of fear.

"You have to go back in history to the early 1940s," said Northrop Corp. historian Ira Chart. "While England was at war, there was some thought that if the Allies went down, the bases for long-range bombers would have to be in the United States. So a long-range bomber was conceived as a necessity.

"The Army Air Corps asked Northrop to come up with a proposal, which was accepted, for a very large-scale bomber, with a wingspan of about 170 feet."

There was one crucial catch: Northrop's behemoth had to be able to carry a large load of bombs and a full crew from the shores of the United States to Rome-Berlin Axis-occupied Europe and back without refueling — an estimated distance of 10,000 miles.

"At the time, Northrop had on its drawing boards the little N1M (flying wing), which was one of a kind and is now being restored at the Smithsonian," said Chart. "It was made of wood and aluminum and it was a successful program. It had a wingspan of about 30 or 40 feet. While this was going on, though, the XB-35 was on the drawing board."

If some thought the N1M, with its dipped wing tips, looked like a prehistoric bird, the mammoth XB-35, with its 172-foot wingspan and giant bomb bays, resembled a huge silver boomerang.

It was the XB-35 that was to be the transcontinental bomber. With no fuselage or rear stabilizers, almost 60 percent of the drag of a conventional plane was eliminated, said Maloney. With a maximum speed of 395 mph, it could fly about 20 percent faster than conventional bombers of the day and, even with four 3,000-horsepower engines pushing it, the big flying wing achieved remarkable fuel efficiency.

While the big XB-35s were being built, the smaller N9M-B's, of the type being reconstructed by Maloney and his volunteers, were built and used as trainers for prospective pilots and as test aircraft to help work out the bugs in the larger versions.

The pilots loved them.

"It wasn't hard to fly at all. Any good pilot could have flown it with no problem," said Max Stanley, Northrop's former chief test pilot who was in the pilot's seat for the first flight of the XB-35 on June 25, 1945.

"I thought it was a great tragedy that the project was canceled."

The original plan, according to a book on the flying wings authored by Maloney, called for the construction of 200 of the large flying wings for the Air Force.

But in 1949, the Air Force canceled the contract, citing the instability of the flying wing.

Before the cancellation of the contract, Northrop had converted a handful of the XB-35s to jet power. One of those planes flew from California to Washington, D.C., in four hours and 20 minutes, said Stanley, who was aboard as an observer.

But, though the flying wing was doomed to slip into obscurity, engineers and aviators still consider the design years ahead of its time, said Maloney.

"A lot of the Northrop employees are still crying over losing that one," he said. "And the pilots say it's one of the best airplanes they've ever flown."

(Continued from previous page)

An undated *Orange County Register* article about the Flying Wing. Charles was a welding supervisor on the first three Flying Wings that were built.

Northrup's 1940s Flying Wing was featured in The Desert Sun dated 1 Mar 2006.

Charles Duncan, Jr., was a welding supervisor at Northrup and worked on the first three Flying Wings, p 1

B2 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006

THE DESERT SUN

VIEW OF THE VALLEY

Every month, Desert Sun photographers capture images of the people and places that make the Coachella Valley a special place.



Paul N. Gilbert, age 89, of Palm Desert, (far left) sits in the pilots seat of a B-17 bomber for the first time in over 60 years in this May 2005 photo. Gilbert (his wartime photo at left), a U.S. Army Air Force pilot, flew the B-17 bomber on 35 missions over Europe in World War II starting in June 1944. His last mission was in November 1944. He had to ditch one B-17 in the North Sea due to damage. His B-17s had battle damage on all 35 missions. He flew "just about every day" during the war. He said, "It was very scary to see German fighters flying at the nose of the B-17 trying to kill the pilot. The combined air speed of the two planes was over 600 mph. I could see them firing at me." His missions took him over Germany, where he bombed ball bearing factories in Schweinfurt. Over the course of the war, 4,750 B-17s were lost. Gilbert enlisted in 1942. "I had never been off the ground before" he said. He has been a docent at the Palm Springs Air Museum for four years.



The Northrop Flying wing of the early 1940s, a radical design at the time and precursor to the Stealth Bomber, sits last week at the Palm Springs Air Museum after landing at Palm Springs International airport. President Truman's secretary of defense ordered the only 13 Flying Wings destroyed after a controversial

competition with Boeing for a jet bomber. Original Northrop employees restored this Flying Wing over an eight-year period after it was discovered in an airplane junk yard at Edwards AFB.



Pilot Ron Hackworth of the Chino Planes of Fame climbs out of the restored 1940s Northrop Flying Wing at the Palm Springs Air Museum after landing at Palm Springs International. The Flying Wing design is devoid of all unnecessary drag induced by stabilizing areas.

(Continued from previous page)

The Desert Sun article about the Flying Wing, for which Charles Duncan, Jr., was a welding supervisor

Wingin' it

More than 60 years have passed since Paul N. Gilbert was forced to ditch a B-17 bomber, damaged by anti-aircraft fire, in the North Sea.

Last May, at age 89, the man who piloted a B-17 bomber on 35 missions over Europe during World War II posed for a photo in the cabin of a B-17 Flying Fortress that is part of the collection at the Palm Springs Air Museum — and one of only 13 still flying.

Gilbert, of Palm Desert, is a docent at the museum, where 36 historical aircraft are on display. Among the most recognizable, perhaps, is the B-25 Mitchell bomber used in the 1992 movie "Forever Young," starring Mel Gibson. Boeing's twin-engine B-25 was one of the most famous warbirds of World War II and was standard equipment for Allied air forces.

Also featured are Pacific and European hangars for World War II aircraft, with wall maps of the theaters of war, murals, a Tuskegee Airmen mural depicting African-America fighter pilots, and classic cars of the era. Large models of famous warships, the USS Missouri and USS Lexington, also are on view.

Visitors to the air museum will find Gilbert and other docents surrounded by airplanes they piloted or flew in during wartime, when they were young men.

Some of history's most famous airplanes have flown to the museum since its 1996 opening to be displayed and provide flyovers for visitors. Among them are the only flying Japanese Zero from World War II and the 1940s Northrup Flying Wing.

Visiting planes have included "Glacier Girl," a restored P-38 that was dug out of a glacier and made famous by a public television documentary.

About 100,000 people visit the museum each year to see the displays, browse through the comprehensive World War II library, try out the computer flight simulators and hear talks by historians, scholars and veterans.



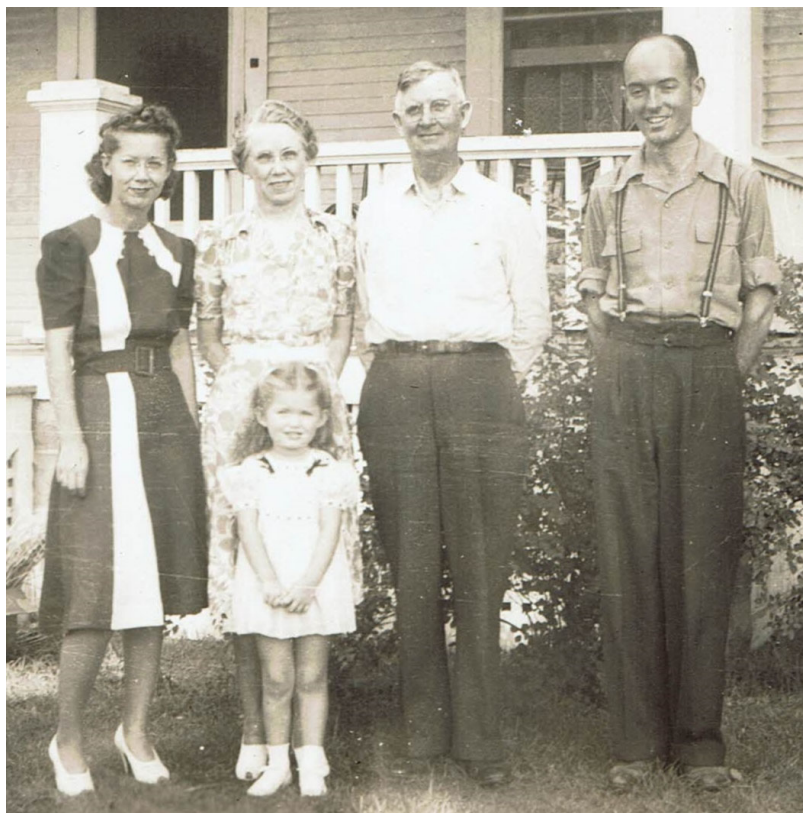
Photos and essay by Wade Byars, Desert Sun photographer



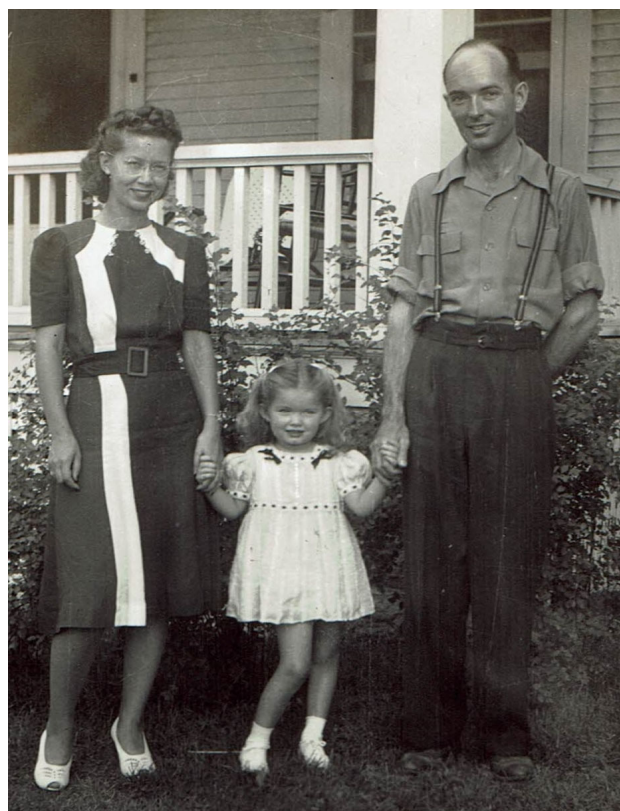
This flying wing was discovered by Ed Maloney, founder of the Planes of Fame at Chino, in the 1960s at Edwards AFB in an airplane junk yard. Maloney towed it out on a boat trailer to his Upland home and with the help of former Northrup engineers restored the last Flying Wing over eight years to its original condition.



Northrup Band: unknown, Charles Duncan, Jr., on sax, Tom Freeman, Jr., Bob Angel, Jack, Jimmie, Aug 1940



Ruth, Florence and D. C. Johnson, Charles and Lorraine at Gene and Fernie Wagner's home, Main St., Ellinwood, Kansas



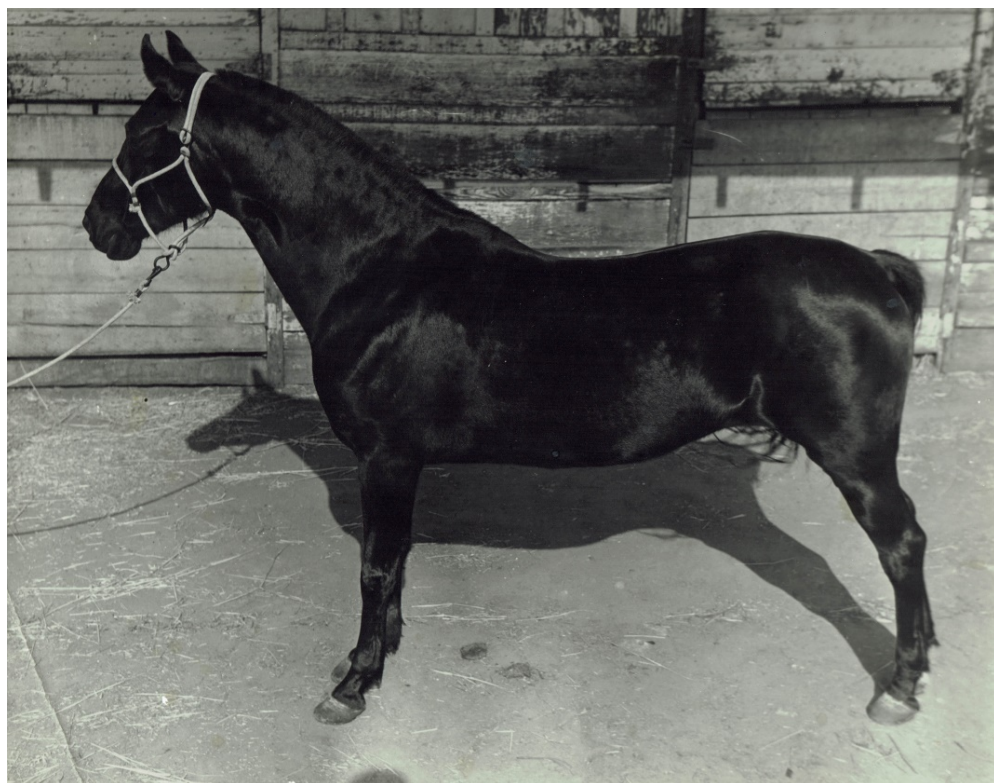
Ruth, Lorraine, and Charles Duncan at the Wagner's home, Main St., Ellinwood, Kansas



Charles Duncan, Jr., and Sissy at Lomita Riding Stables. He paid \$50 for Sissy.



Charles on Sissy



Charles' horse, Music at Night, at Dawson's Barn, Inglewood, California



Looking down on foredeck of 60 ft. yawl, Southern California



**Guy Kingsburg on 60 ft. yawl to
Catalina Island, California**



Looking down on foredeck of 60 ft yawl, Charles below wearing cap, Southern California



**Nuisance the cat,
Ruth, Charles,
and Lorraine at
their Inglewood
home,
27 Mar 1941**



**Peter at
11 months,
Ruth Duncan at
29 years,
Polly at 6 weeks.
Inglewood,
16 Jul 1942**

**Easter, 13 Apr 1941
Johnsons' Long Beach house**



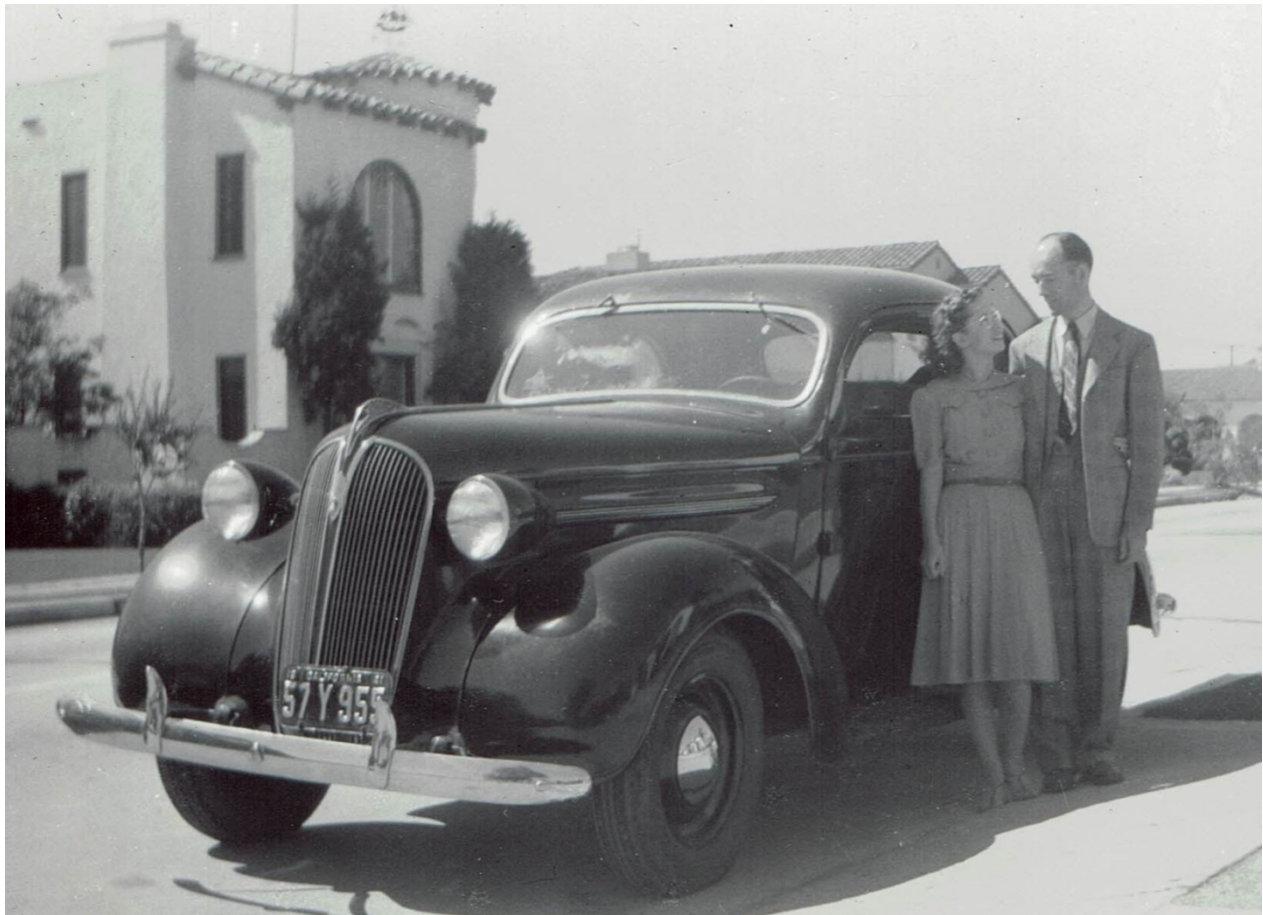
Florence Johnson and Lorraine



Lorraine, Ruth, and Charles



Ruth and Lorraine



Charles and Ruth with their 1937 Plymouth, a wedding gift from her parents, photo taken June 1941



Charles and Ruth Duncan with their new 1939 Plymouth, photo taken June 1941



**Charles and Ruth Duncan riding in Griffith Park, Los Angeles, California,
18 Oct 1941**



**Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine
in Halloween costume with
puppy Peter at Charles'
parents' home, Long Beach,
26 Oct 1941**

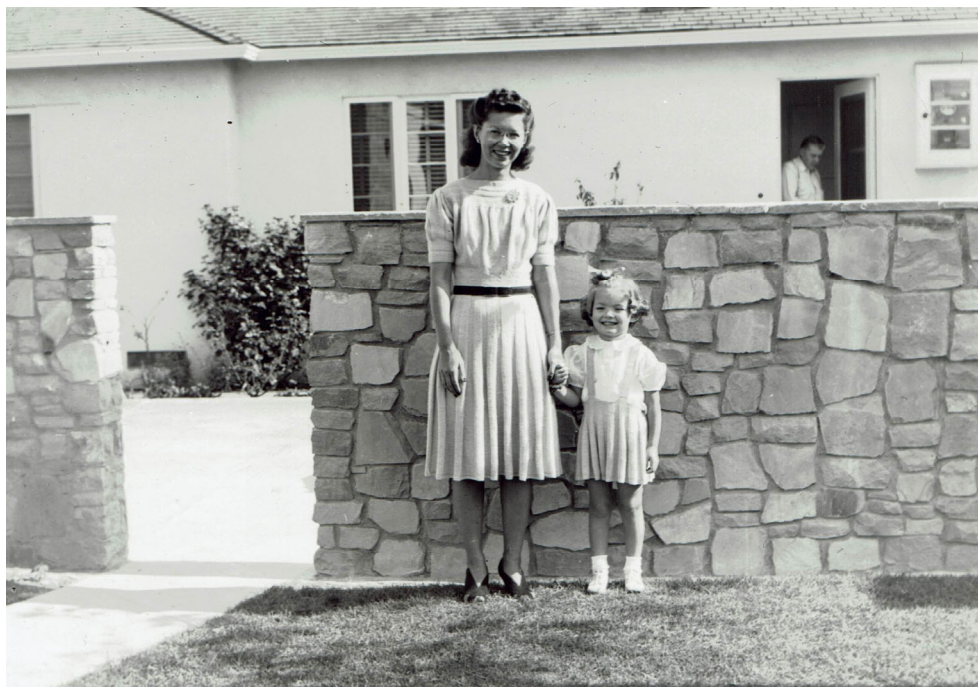


**Ruth Duncan with 2-month-old Peter,
19 Oct 1941**



**Ruth Duncan in Inglewood
12 Oct 1941**





Lorraine and Ruth Duncan in the dresses she knitted, by the rock wall that Charles built at their Inglewood house, 20 Nov 1941



**Ruth Duncan holding Peter,
7 Dec 1941**



**Lorraine, Peter the dog at their feet, and Ruth Duncan
at Laguna Beach, 14 June 1942**



**Charles Duncan, Jr., holding
Peter, 7 Dec 1941**



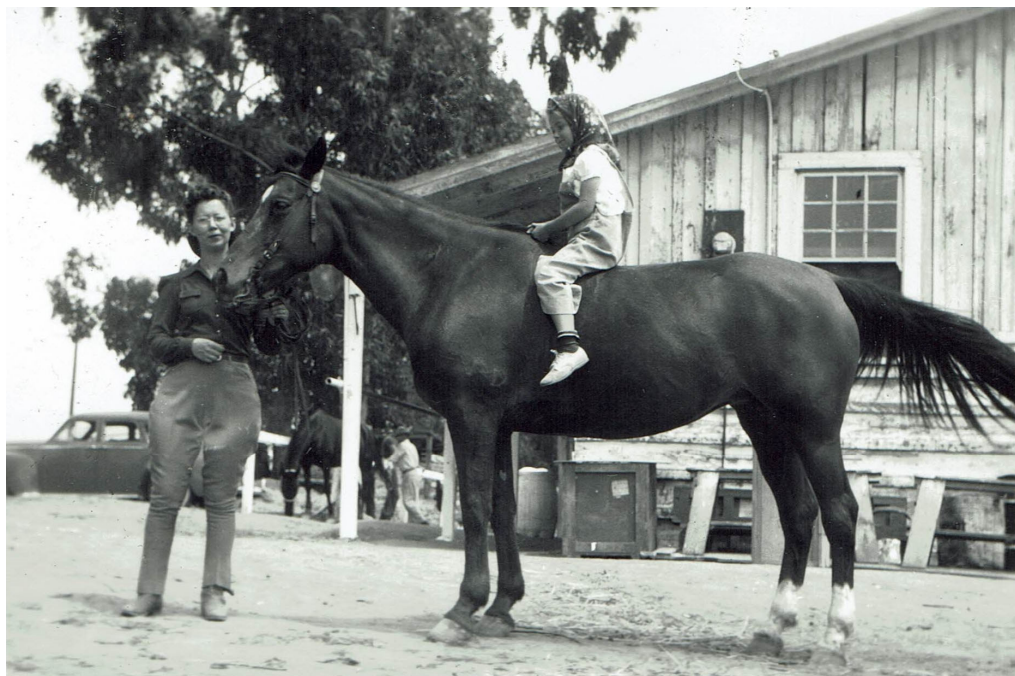
**Ruth riding at Glenn Ranch and Charles in his
dude hat in front of their rooms, 10 May 1943**



**Ruth Duncan with Polly and Peter at the swimming pool at Glenn
Ranch, California**



**Charles and Ruth picnicking at
Bonita Falls - Glenn Ranch, 12 May 1943**



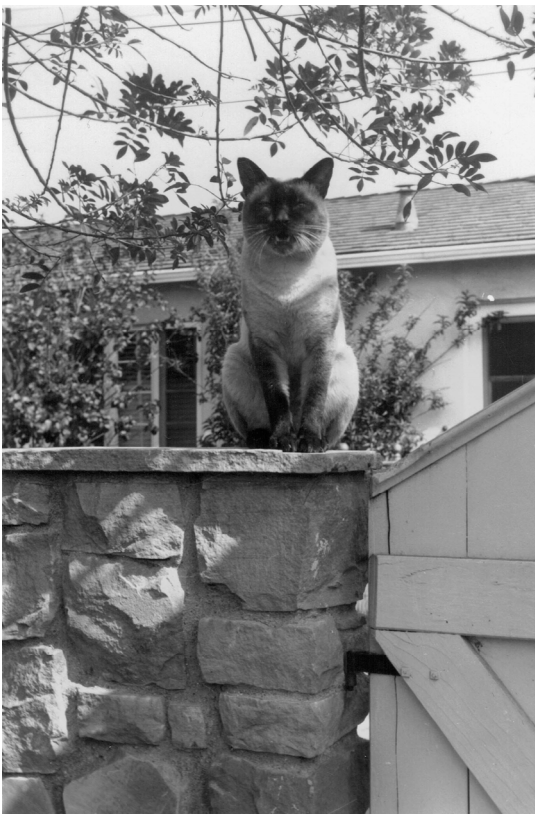
Upper right, Ruth Duncan on Maggie on 1 May 1944.

Above, Ruth with Lorraine on Maggie. Music at Night is in the background, 1 May 1944.

Left, Maggie and her colt at Dawson's Barn, Inglewood, California. Her colt is also shown in the upper and middle left photos.



Ruth Duncan's students at their 2nd Piano Recital, Lorraine in plaid in front row on right, 29 Mar 1945. Jean Maffei, 1st on left in the front row, and her family remained friends with the Duncans after their move to Kansas.

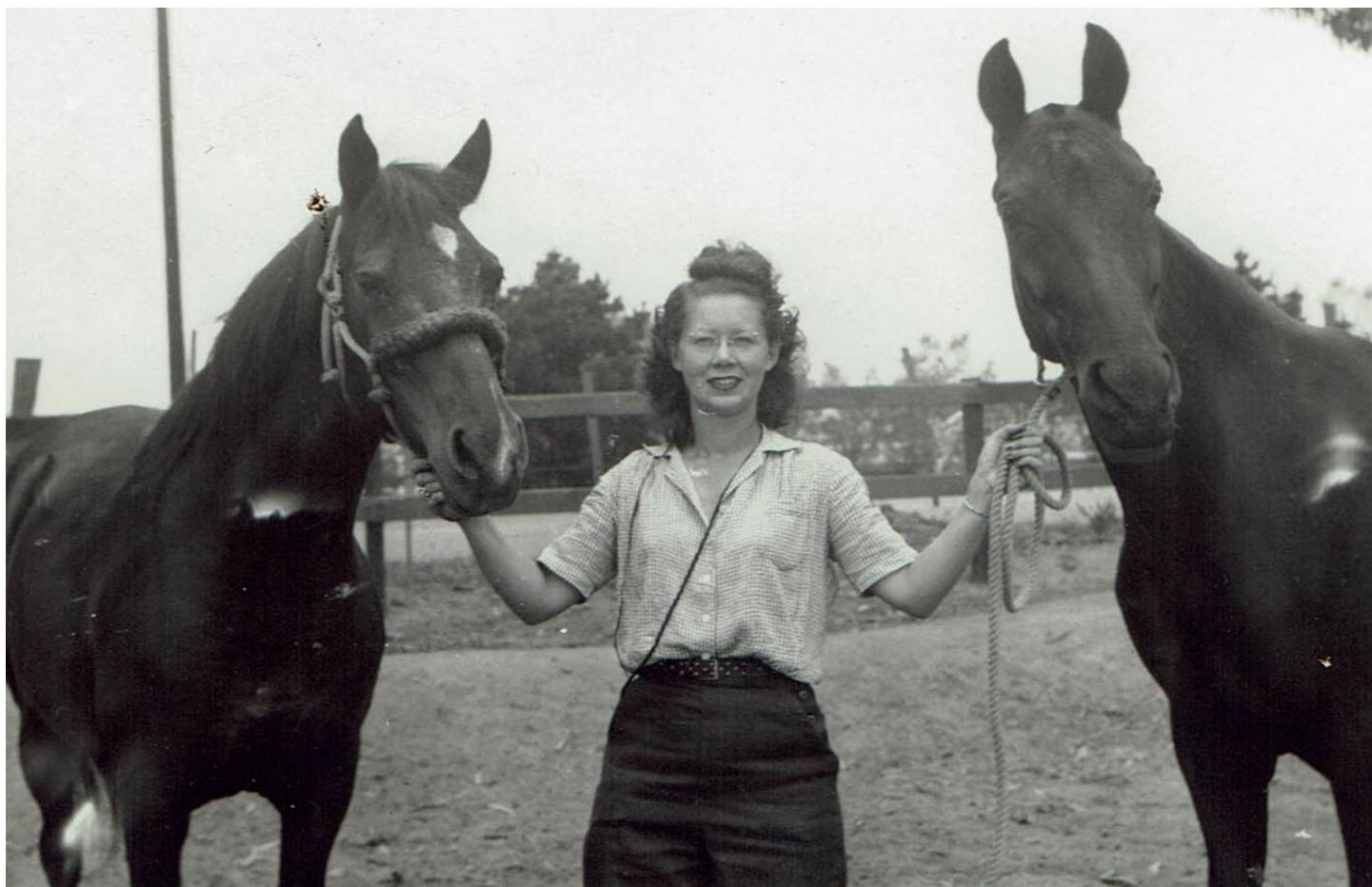


**Pnom Penh Sam (Sam for short),
2-year-old seal point Siamese
12 Feb 1946**

**At home in
Inglewood**

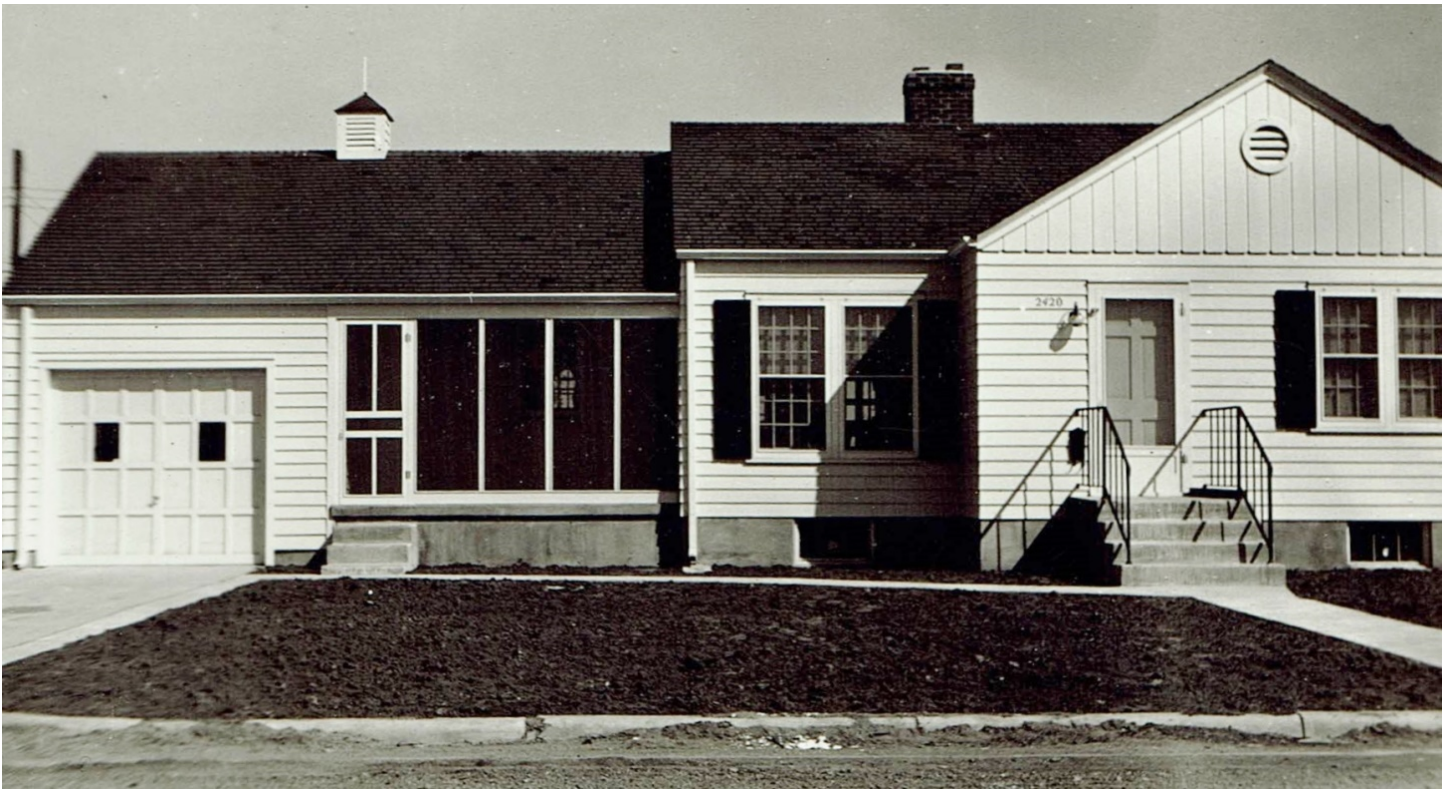


**Charles, Sam, and Lorraine Duncan,
18 Nov 1945**



Ruth Duncan with Maggie and Music at Night in Inglewood, California, on 7 Jul 1946





Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan moved in 1946 to 2420 Zarah Drive, Great Bend, Kansas, and lived there one year while Charles helped build their new home on D. C. Johnson's farm at Dartmouth



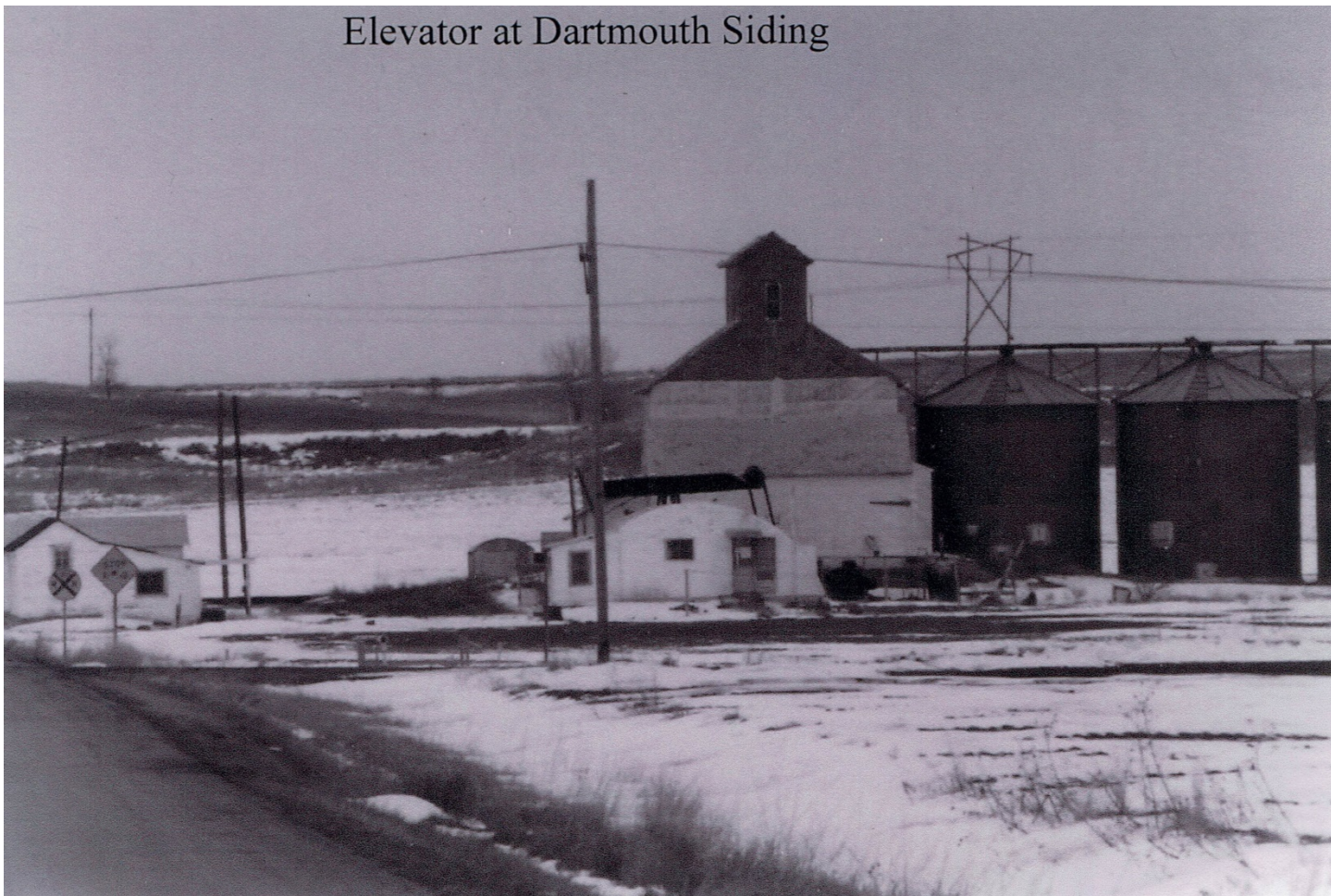
Peter, Lorraine, and Polly Duncan, Great Bend, Kansas, Nov 1946



L to R: Florence Johnson and her sister Edna Fortna (nee Lash), Lorraine, Edna's granddaughter Patricia Pope (nee Fortna), and Ruth Duncan , 2420 Zarah Drive, Great Bend, Kansas, Christmas 1946



Elevator at Dartmouth Siding



Dartmouth was a railway siding and elevator between Ellinwood and Great Bend, Kansas, where the farmers' grain was weighed, stored, and picked up by trains. At one time there was a gas pump and a quonset hut (seen in the undated photo above) that housed a family of seven. Family members weighed the trucks and pumped the gas.

Below is the old grain elevator at Dartmouth on 7 Jun 1981. It was partially torn down in May 1982. The scale is the flat surface to the right of the office, and the gas pump had been to the right of the scale.





Top: Bosse elevator being torn down in May 1982 on Dartmouth land owned by the Duncans.

Middle: The new Garvey elevator about a mile away in May 1982 on land the Duncans sold to Garvey.

Below: The new Garvey grain elevator in Aug 1982.



A 27 Nov 1979 *Great Bend Tribune* article, shown on this and the following page, describes the long lines for purchasing gas and featured this photo of the old Dartmouth elevator and gas station.

Great Bend

Tribune

32 PAGES
THREE SECTIONS

Our 104th Year
No. 92

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Great Bend, Kans. 67530

Tuesday, November 27, 1979

Circulation Dept.	316 793 3521
Classified Ad Dept.	316 793 3521
News Department	316 793 3546
General Offices	316 793 3521

20¢



Remember when gas was 29 cents?

(Photo by Mark Anderson)

The price on the pump, below, at this abandoned station along U.S. 56 between Ellinwood and Great Bend reads 29 cents per gallon, truly a glass shattering price in today's market. But the station has long been closed and prices now are averaging \$1 per gallon and soaring.

at Dartmouth

Continued from Previous Page

Gas lines, \$1.50 a gallon by summer?

By MARK ANDERSON
Tribune Staff Writer

With the cold north winds of winter about to gather force and Christmas shopping still ahead for most people, about the last thing anyone wants to hear about are the rising prices and dwindling supplies of fuel. Such news seems inevitable, however, according to local gas station managers.

Paule and Butch Brack operate a Texaco station at 2200 10th, leasing their outlet from Radke Oil Company of McPherson.

"The bulk dealer for Radke hasn't given a very rosy picture of the future," Mrs. Brack said today.

"According to what he's said, we'll have gas lines and \$1.50 a gallon prices by next summer. He could be right for all I know. It's hard to know what's going to happen over the next several months. Prices sure aren't going to go down, though."

Joe Walter, who owns his Champlin station at 10th and Jefferson, said he is usually able to get his fuel at a slightly cheaper price than the dealer who leases a station. Such hasn't been the case in recent months, however. Like Brack's Texaco, Walter is presently selling unleaded gas at \$1.06 a gallon, and regular at \$1.02 a gallon.

Both dealers are struggling with the 70 percent allocation of gasoline they must operate under. Walter is also a large distributor of diesel fuel. He quoted the 90 percent allocation of the oily fuel as being more painful than the 30 percent cutback in gasoline.

"I take bulk loads out of 11 oil rigs on a regular basis right now," Walter stated. "I could have twice as many customers if I could get the fuel. I had to turn away three potential customers yesterday. And the situation on diesel fuel isn't going to get any better now that winter is almost here.

"More oil will be diverted to home heating oil, and I'll be getting even less diesel this winter than I am now. And it'll be a lot more expensive. Before Christmas, diesel will cost more than regular gas. That's a pretty bad price hike when you think about it. The only trouble is that I'm sure not getting rich off it.

Most gas prices have doubled in the

last year, but my margin of profit has remained the same. It's even gone down for some guys I know."

One person who's had few worries in regard to supply of gasoline is the manager of Love's Country Store at 1221 10th, Tom White. White's store receives its supply from the company that owns the chain of convenience stores, Musket Oil Corp. of Oklahoma City, Okla.

"I get a phone call from Musket every Monday and Thursday morning to check on my supply," White said. "I tell them what I need and there's usually a truck out the next day.

"Of course, it's hard for them to put me on allocation since this store only opened

in mid-1978. It wouldn't be fair for them to figure an allocation percentage based on this store's sales during its first six months of operation."

White knows his situation will change in January when he expects to be on an allocation based on 70 percent of his gasoline sales in 1979. He seems equally confident of continued rises in the price of the gas he sells.

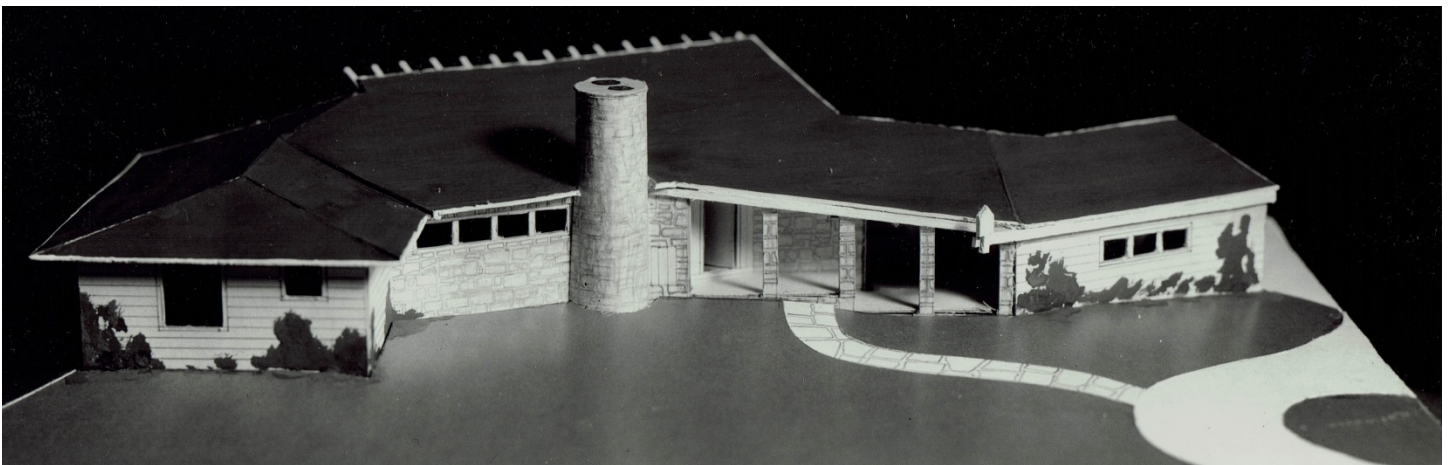
"The only thing I've heard is that the price will keep going up," White said. "The pricing situation as it now stands really stinks. I'm surprised people can even afford to drive to work. But I'm as much a victim as the guy filling his car."



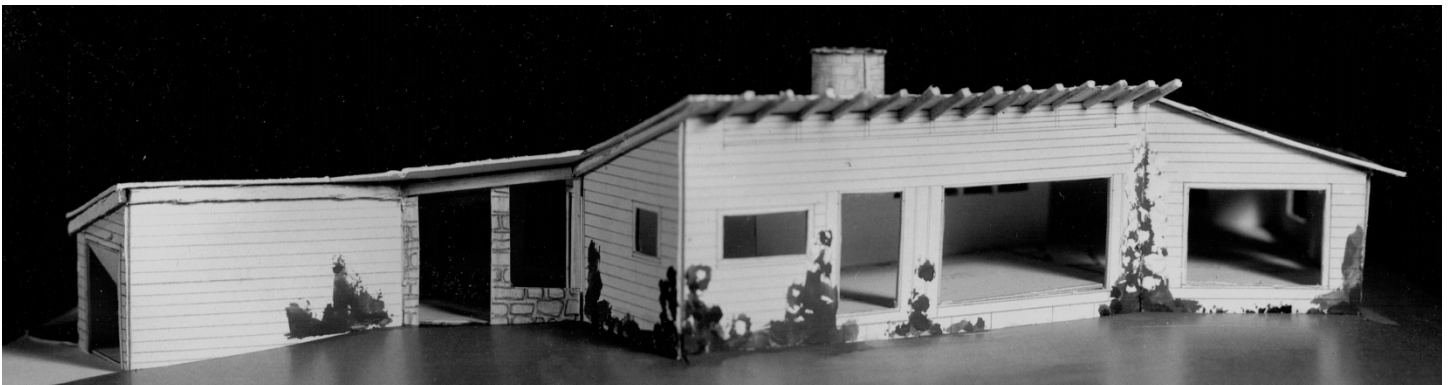
Charles, Lorraine, and Ruth Duncan in 1947 with the model of the house he would soon build at Dartmouth



Marion Heter, architect from Sterling, Kansas, who had studied with Frank Lloyd Wright, drew up the plans for this house. Joe Dressen, a local contractor, was to build the house but had a fatal heart attack after the foundation and basement walls were completed. Charles hired Joe's men and together they completed the house.



Model showing front (with chimney) and back of the Dartmouth house, photo dated 27 May 1947

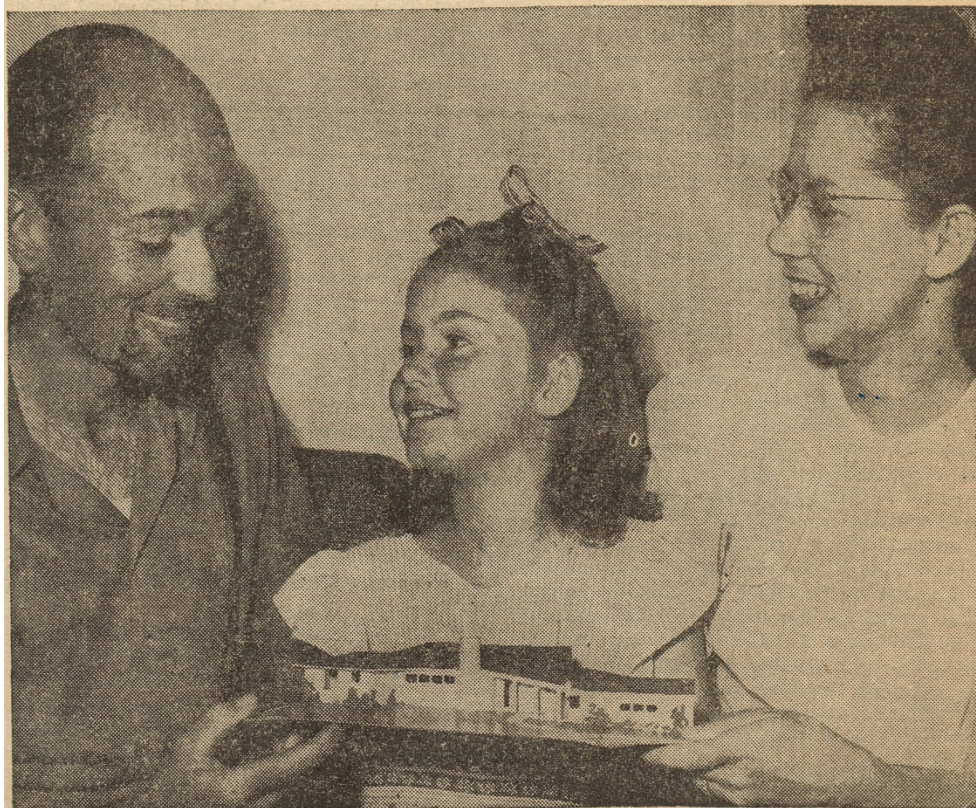


Article about the house Charles Duncan, Jr., was building, 1947

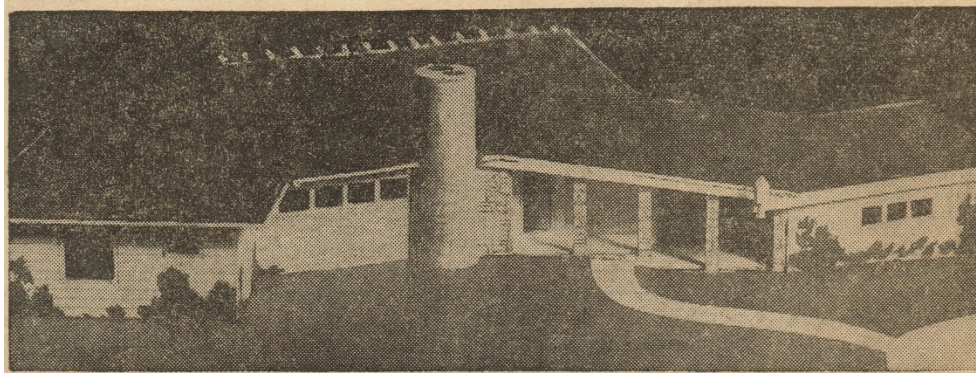
SOUTHWEST KANSAS NEWS

Sunday, June 1, 1947

EDITORIALS—SPORTS



THE DUNCAN FAMILY DREAM HOUSE: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duncan and daughter, Lorraine, discuss the scale model of their rural home (above). Below is the view of the home as it will appear from US 50N and the Santa Fe railroad a quarter of a mile to the northwest. Note the roof projection over the southeast wall of the living room (upper left and center). (Fisk Photos)



Vets Of 3 Wars Attend Conference

Sterling—Veterans of three wars were present among the commissioners at the 89th general assembly of the United Presbyterian church of North America when Memorial Services were held Friday at the conference.

There was one soldier, Robert A. Bowman, of Cleveland, who was in the Spanish-American war, 30 veterans of the first world war and 12 from the

Distinctive Home Attracts Visitors

Great Bend—If you build a better mouse trap the world will beat a path to your door, but in the modern age building a more distinctive dwelling will bring the world to your door before it—the door, not the world—is hung on its hinges.

Every man has his dream of a house. And when the dream becomes a reality, his neighbors become interested.

The Charles Duncans of Great Bend—Mr. and Mrs. Duncan and their nine-year-old daughter, Lorraine—are in process of building their dream home on a knoll overlooking the Arkansas river to the southeast and the Barton county landscape around the Dartmouth elevator on the south side of US 50N highway, midway between here and Ellinwood.

Since construction began persons from Great Bend, Ellinwood and other towns have driven to the farm to observe the unique plan.

T. Marion Heter, architect and engineer at Sterling conceived and copyrighted the design, and made it conform to the site. This is only the second house of its type to be built.

Not large, the home will contain five rooms and a bath. It sets on a knoll, is not squared off with the compass. The central section has a living room, one wall of which faces southeast toward the river. From the central section two wings extend out at angles.

Speaking of the design, Heter explains that "orientation and plan were arranged best to permit blending of the sloping eave line with the natural slope of the side of small hill on which the house is being built, and to give the living quarters a view paralleling the north bank of the Arkansas river. The view is about 60 degrees east of south. Also to create a condition whereby the south windows of the living room will be shaded from direct sunlight from 10 a. m. until dark, during the hot season from July until October."

Thinking in terms befitting a farmer, some of the neighbors have described the southeast roof "like a sloping cowshed roof." But it has a purpose, as the architect explains. The roof permits the sun to enter only during the cool part of the day, but shuts off direct sunlight during the middle of hot summer days.

In the winter months when the sun is far south the slope of the roof is not sufficient to keep out the sun's rays.

Heter explained the Duncan house consists of a small entry screened one side with structural glass, a living and dining room combination in the central portion, two bedrooms and bath in the east wing; kitchen, nook and half bath in the west wing. Between kitchen and garage is a screened breezeway which connects directly to the front entrance covered area.

Insulating glass is being used in the large stationary windows. Native stone is to be used for part of the exterior walls. Part will be of wood siding. The southeast wall of the living room will be mostly glass, with curtains on concealed channels which can be drawn to shut off the view from out of doors.



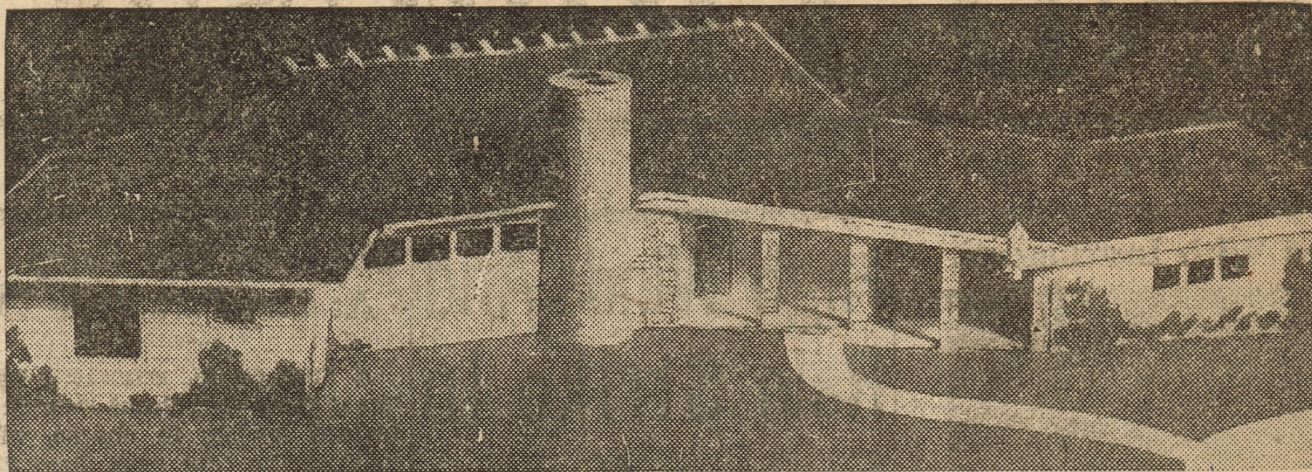
Dartmouth house foundation in the foreground. The white building on the left is a cabin owned by Ruth's father, D. C. Johnson. D. C. was raised in the 2-story house in the background, which was built by his father, Amos Johnson. Photo taken 25 Apr 1947.



Maggie and Music at the old Dartmouth barn, 15 June 1947

5 Jun 1947 *Great Bend Tribune*

NEW TYPE RESIDENCE IN DARTMOUTH AREA.



This scale model view of the Duncan family dream house is as it would be viewed looking from highway US50N or the Santa Fe railroad at Dartmouth. Designed for greatest use of the sun in winter and shading in the summer, the house will be the second of its type to be built from plans made by a Sterling architect and engineer. (Photo Courtesy Hutchinson News-Herald)

At a point near where prior to the 1370s hundreds of Santa Fe Trail travelers got their first glimpse of the Arkansas river on their way to Old Mexico, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duncan—assisted by their nine-year-old daughter, Lorraine—are building a distinctive home designed by T. Marion Heter, architect and engineer at Sterling.

The new home is being built on a knoll a short distance south of the Dartmouth elevator, south of highway US50N and about halfway between Great Bend and Ellinwood.

The Duncans, who live at 2420 Zarah Drive, will move into their new home, which has attracted many observers, possibly sometime in the fall if the structure is finished. In the meantime Mr. Dun-

can is supervising the construction with the boxing now up and part of the roof sheeted.

The home is situated on the D. C. Johnson farm, Mrs. Duncan being the former Ruth Johnson. Interested spectators for the home-building and also here for harvest are Mrs. Duncan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson of Long Beach, Calif. Mr. Johnson formerly was cashier at the Peoples State Bank at Ellinwood.

Heter conceived and copyrighted the design and made it conform to the site. This is only the second house of its type to be built.

Not large, the home will contain five rooms and a bath. It sets on a knoll, is not squared off with the compass. The central section has

a living room, one wall of which faces southeast toward the river. From the central section two wings extend out at angles.

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Dartmouth house in progress, D. C. Johnson standing by the car on right, 19 Jul 1947

8 May 1947 *Ellinwood Leader*

Leader 5-8-47
**UNIQUE FARM HOME BEING
BUILT EAST OF DARTMOUTH**

The Charles Duncan house, which is being erected on the Johnson farm, just east of the Dartmouth elevator and south of the highway is to be one of the most unusual farm homes in the United States and according to the Sterling architect who designed it it is the second home of it type to be built.

The house will be a small one, five rooms and a bath, but will have many unusual features. It sits on a knoll and is not set straight with the compass. The central section will include a living room, one wall of which will face southeast, toward the river, and will be composed entirely of a special double glass. Curtains, on concealed channels, can be drawn to shut the room off from the out of doors.

From the central section of the house two wings extend out at angles. The roof, described by some who have seen the plans as "like a cowshed roof," extends far enough beyond the living room to let the sun enter in the cool part of the day, and in the winter when the sun is low, but shuts off direct sunlight when the sun is high, during the middle of summer days.

Joe Dressen, the contractor, became ill, after getting the house well started, but his crew is going ahead with the work. Many people are taking the old road to Great Bend to get a better look at the new home.



Charles Duncan, Jr., putting siding on the Dartmouth house,
19 Jul 1947



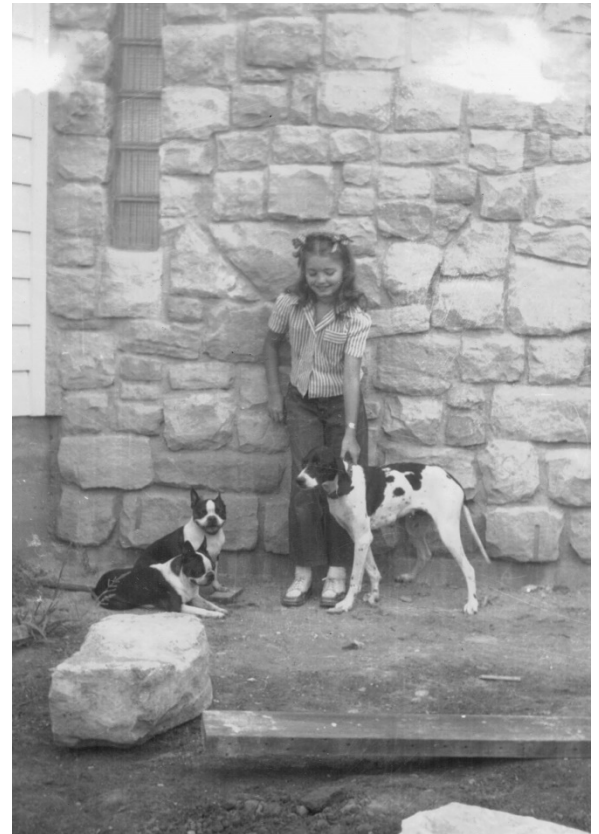
South side of house. L. to R.:
Garage, breezeway, kitchen, dining
area, living room, and master
bedroom. Cottonwood trees
(Kansas state tree) on the left
and the dog Peter on the right
in the alfalfa field, 1947.



North side of house showing chimney work. L. to R.: Lorraine's bedroom, bathroom, living room, half bath with round window, breezeway, and garage on right. 20 Sep 1947



Lorraine and Queenie on Charles' stone work. The door to the living room is at left, 20 Sep 1947



Peter, Polly, Lorraine, and Queenie by the glass block installed by Charles in the hallway, 20 Sep 1947



Lorraine, Queenie's pups, Peter and Queenie, 1947



The former school Dist. 3, near Dartmouth, Barton County, Kansas, was a 1-room school that D. C. Johnson attended in the 1880s and taught at before leaving for business college. Lorraine Duncan attended here the last three years before it closed in 1951. It was converted to a house and is still occupied today. Photo 1975.



Dist. 3 School near Dartmouth, Spring 1948

Back row, L. to R.: Miss Collins, Margie Dolezel, Wanda Pieland, Basil Pieland, La Verne Langrehr, Shirley Dolezel, Elinor Bryant.

Front Row, L. to R.: Evelyn Komarek, Lorraine Duncan, Kenneth Pieland, Jerry Komarek, Mervin Langrehr, Jimmy Komarek



**Dist. 3 School
near Dartmouth,
Christmas 1948**

**Back Row, L to R:
Mervin Langrehr,
LaVerne Langrehr,
Duane Brown,
Elinor Bryant,
Lorraine Duncan.**

**Front Row:
Alvin Schartz,
Gale Heinz**

**Teacher:
Mrs. Dorman
at piano.**



L. to R.: Gale Heinz, Mervin Langrehr, Lorraine Duncan, Elinor Bryant, and seated in back, parent Clara Bryant. Students shown in front of bottles for their Bottle Band, District 3 School, Barton Co., Christmas 1949

Dartmouth friends in pioneer dress to perform The Rheumatiz song, Apr 1950. We performed it on 4 May 1950 for a 4-H variety show at the Great Bend High School.

Back Row, L. to R.: Lorraine Duncan, Rosella Heckeles, Elinor Bryant, Mary Eldean Heinz.

Front Row, L. to R.: LaVerne Langrehr, Margaret Heckeles, Eloise Bryant



Former School District 3, near Dartmouth, Barton County, Kansas, photo taken May 1988.

This had been a Grade 1-8 one-room school house with outhouses and a water pump with a shared cup for the students. Ruth sent a thermos of water with Lorraine so she wouldn't use the cup. Enrollment in the final three years when Lorraine attended was 12, 7, and finally 4 students. It closed in 1951. The building was converted to a house and is still occupied today.



**Charles Duncan, Jr., finishing the chimney at Dartmouth.
July 1948**

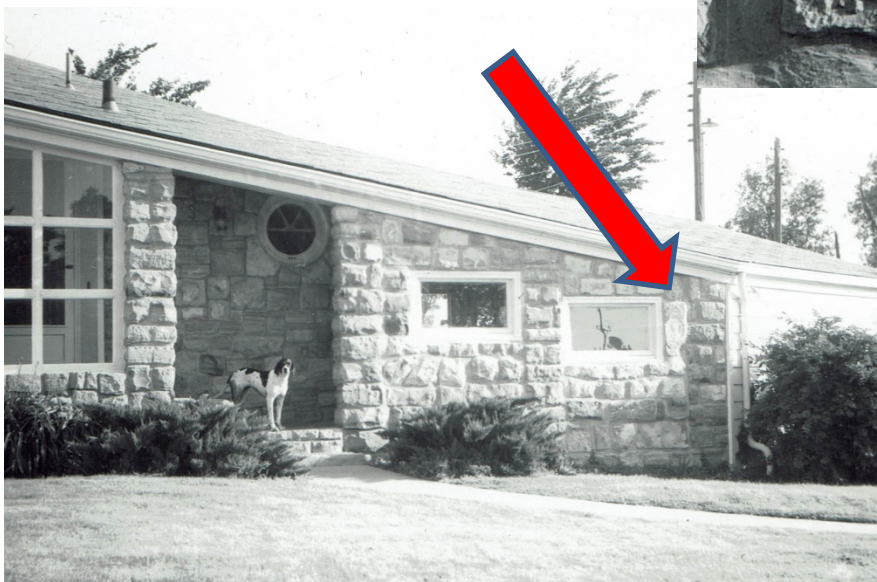


**The cannonball brought back from the
Civil War by Amos Johnson, Ruth
Duncan's grandfather, is embedded near
the entrance to the Dartmouth house
alongside a copper plate Charles
engraved to identify it.**

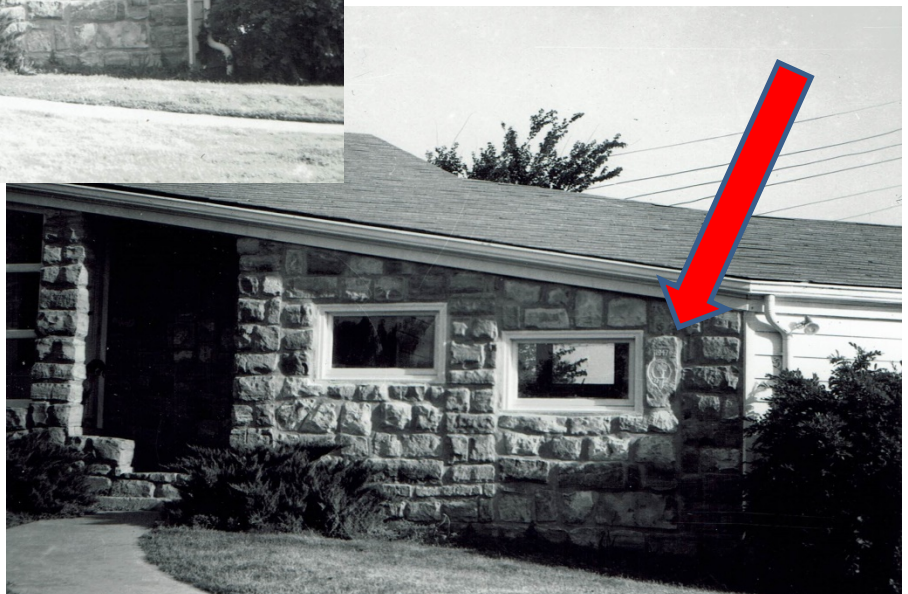


Polly, Lorraine Duncan, Peter, and Queenie in 1948

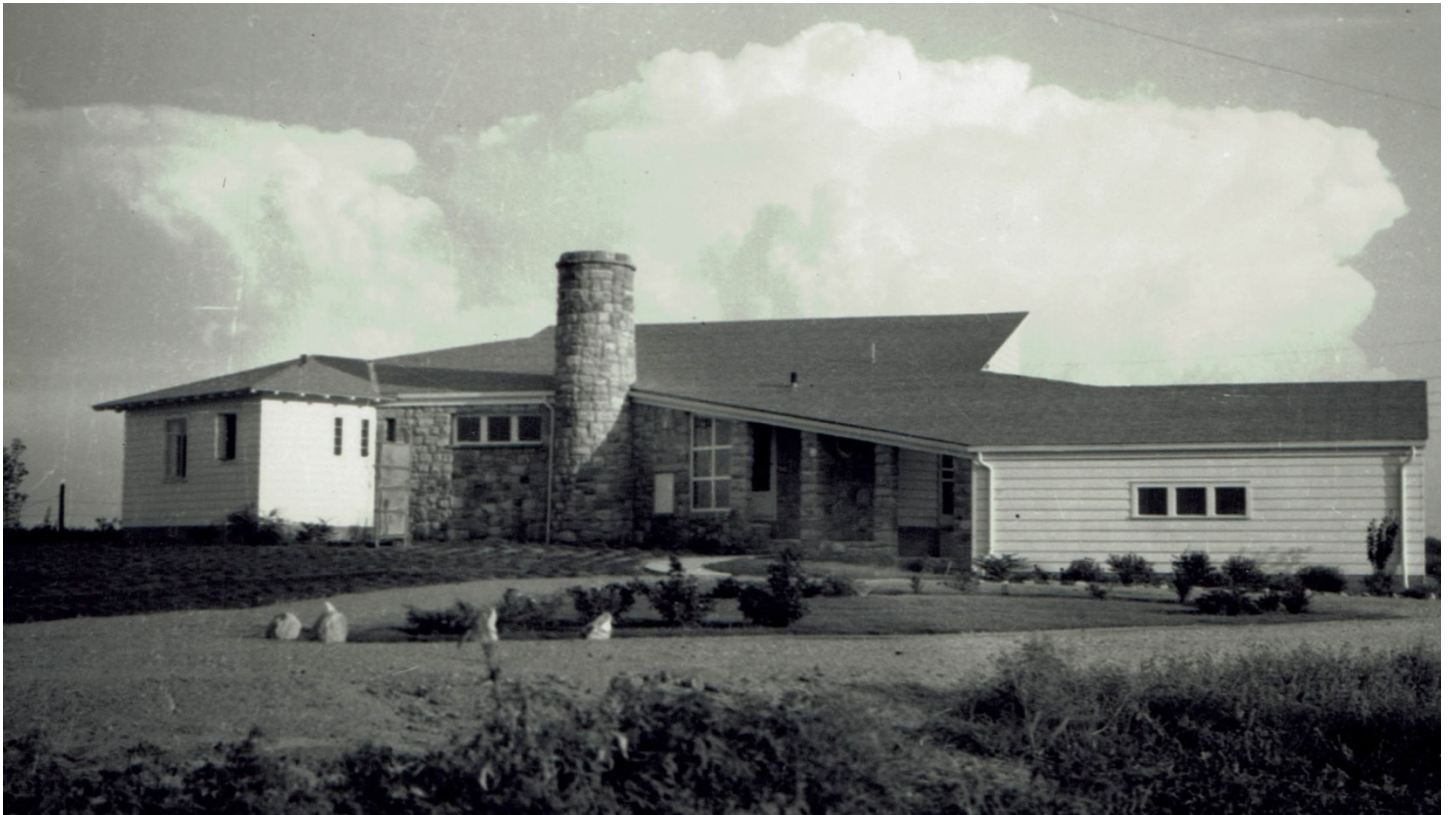
The Duncan Family Crest on the Dartmouth House



Charles Duncan researched, drew, and sculpted the Duncan family crest in limestone before adding it to the front of their Dartmouth home. He also made pendants of the crest in gold for his wife and silver (shown) for his daughter. Ironically, decades later and after the death of his father, Charles learned that his father was born a Henderson and changed his name to Duncan when he emigrated to the United States.



The Duncan home at Dartmouth near Great Bend in 1948



Charles and Ruth Duncan's Dartmouth home in Aug 1948



Duncan farm house at Dartmouth near Great Bend, Kansas, 1948

Joke letter from Ruth Duncan (nee Johnson) to her parents about their upcoming visit in 1948

R.R. #3
Gt. Bend, Kans.
Aug. 22, 1948.

Dear New Members Of The Park Ave. And Mink Coat Club:

This is to notify you that your Riverside Country home is being put into readiness for your semi-annual stay. The hedges are clipped, the rose garden pruned, the lawns weeded, the black and the bay in the stables await your pleasure and the hound(s) are ready for the Chase. The paperhangers are due soon to put into effect the redecorating you ordered last spring.

However we are sorry to say that we are experiencing some difficulty with the help. The gardener says it is too hot to work and that she freckles too easily and the cook complains that there has been hardly anyone to enjoy the food she doesn't cook. The hired hand says we need rain and just a week or so ago he was complaining of an excess.

We have hopes of ironing all these troubles out before your arrival, for, as you know, satisfactory help is very hard to find these days, so we shall do our utmost to keep things under control.

Now about the shoes left in the cedar closet; Do you want the heels done over in rhinestones or would pseudo pearls be more to your liking? Also the red hat that Madame left behind. The milliner suggested either field flowers with mauve coq feathers or a veiling of satin back organza and full blown roses in magenta cascading in tiers on the brim. Will you notify us at once on these matters so that we may have them attended to without delay?

Trusting that this will find Madame and Monsieur in the best of health, I remain,

Very Faithfully Yours,

Miss Ruth Duncan



**Ruth and Charles Duncan,
at their home,
Christmas 1948**



Music, calf, and Maggie by the red barn at D. C. Johnson's farm at Dartmouth, Dec 1948

Ruth Duncan's satirical review of her Easter fashion, undated

Among those seen on Dartmouth's fashionable Fifth Avenue was Mrs. Chas. Duncan, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. D.C. Johnson, ex-banker & oil tycoon. Mrs. Duncan wore the season's new color, faded blue (denim) coupled with a red & green Scotch plaid blouse boasting stimulated pearl buttons. Over her page boy coiffure (well it would be page boy when she took off the curlers) she wore as her Easter bonnet the ever popular bandana in a muted shade of red (you know how the sun does fade things!) tied becomingly under the chin in a double French knot trimmed with self-fringe. Her gloves were handmade and embroidered in yellow with glimpses of earth brown seen in the palm. In her hand she carried a rake with a hard rubbed handle and glittering with silver metallic teeth. The socially prominent Mrs. Duncan made one concession to the New Look by wearing one pant leg rolled two inches below the knee and the other ankle length!

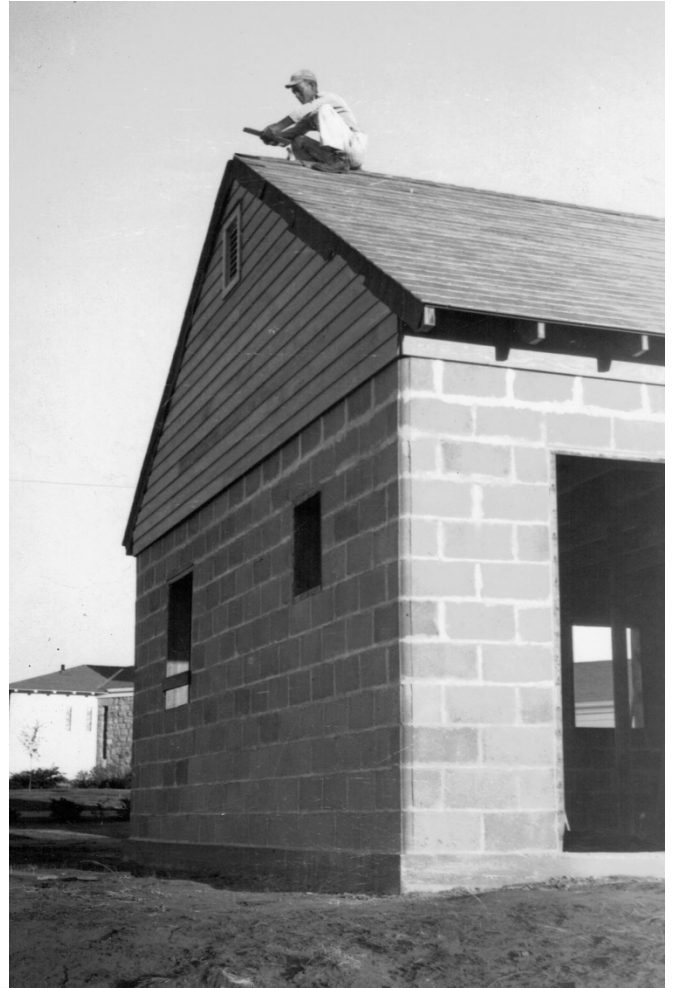
Mrs. Duncan wore white. He admitted it was rushing the season a bit, but after all carpenters have been wearing that costume for a number of years, haven't they?

R.L.D.

Charles Duncan's New Horse Barn to go with New Dartmouth House, 1949



West view of the horse barn on 25 Sep 1949. Lorraine's job was to mix the mortar for the concrete blocks.



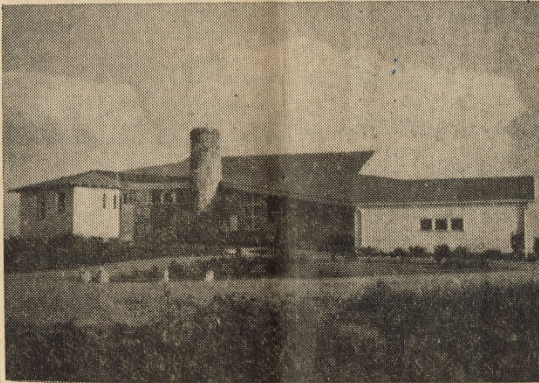
Charles nailing shingles on the roof of the Dartmouth horse barn on 25 Sep 1949. He matched the shingles to the house.



Barn built by Charles Duncan. The tackroom had the door and three windows. There were shutters in two of the four horse stalls. Oct 1949

18 Jan 1950 *Great Bend Tribune* describes the new Duncan house, p. 1

Unusual Type Farm Home Found Near Great Bend



Focal point of the front of the Charles Duncan home near Dartmouth is the circular, stone chimney which extends above the roof. The many windows found throughout the home which make up the solar heating system, can be seen. Also visible are the unique methods of entering—a series of glassed in and screened in hallways. (Tribune Engraving)

china faucet handles which are a hazard if they become broken or chipped. New fixtures have metal handles instead.

The preference for colored plumb-

ing fixtures in the bathroom does not hold true in the kitchen. American Builder says plumbing dealers and builders have learned that the white kitchen sink is still favored.

Upkeep Climbs In Aging Houses

Minneapolis, (AP) — Old houses can be said to be subject to hardening of the arteries.

That's the conclusion drawn from a study of home obsolescence conducted by Tom McDonald, vice-president of the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co. His sampling indicates that 51 per cent of the 43,000,000 homes in the U. S. are more than 30 years old. In most cases they are still equipped with lighting and plumbing fixtures, heating plants and other accessories that belonged to a past generation.

"This brings about a kind of hardening of the arteries through increasing maintenance costs and decreasing property values," says McDonald, who was primarily interested in finding that only about 8,000,000 homes have automatically controlled heating systems.



Twelve year old Elaine Duncan and the Duncan pets pose before the stone fireplace in the living room. The wood burning fireplace is found to be more of a necessity than an ornament by the family because in the winter, their solar system of heating has not proved adequate. The stained plywood paneling covering the entire length of the north side of the room can be seen in the background. (Tribune Photo & Engraving)

The only thing lacking in the two year old home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duncan is a terraced landscape to go with the solar system of heating, the most important feature of their home.

The Duncans live midway between Great Bend and El-

linwood in a six room home located on a 400 acre farm. The house is constructed of stone and cedar drop siding with a roof of asbestos shingles.

Although the house has the solar heating system the Duncans have found a floor furnace is necessary, and even have occasion to use the stone wood-burning fireplace in the living room. A storage place for wood is found hidden in the paneling that extends the full length of the living room on the north side. The wood niche opens from both

inside and outside for convenience. This paneling also contains shelves for storage space.

The living-dining room area is separated from the hall by glass paneling. A huge picture window faces south giving a view of the setting sun and the Arkansas river. Pull drapes are yellow, green and grey. Furniture is maple stained birch and the hardwood floor is covered with a Chinese hooked rug.

Kitchen Is Compact

White and black tile is used in the kitchen which is compact and

fect separating two closets. The color scheme is based on two prints above the 18th century, mahogany bed. Drapes for the picture window are turquoise and walls are ivory. A white crocheted spread is on the bed.

Elaine Duncan's room has an American hooked, deep turquoise rug. The furniture is limed oak, modern and drapes and spread are of flowered chintz. A large picture window faces east.

The Duncan home is extremely unusual in many ways other than the unique heating system. Imbedded in the stone of the enclosed doorway is a cannon ball from the civil war originally owned by Mrs. Duncan's grandfather.

Stone Chimney

Also different is the circular stone

covered with a Chinese hooked rug.

Kitchen Is Compact

White and black tile is used in the kitchen which is compact and handy. A breakfast nook is white and the table top is covered with linoleum. Wallpaper here is yellow, green, red and blue print. A half bath in light peach is found off the kitchen.

To the west a door from the kitchen opens onto the glass and screened in breezeway between the house and garage.

In the basement is a bedroom, work table for Mr. Duncan, deep freeze and ample storage space for canned goods.

Two Bedrooms

Bedrooms are separated by a diagonal hall in which are found two closets. The full bath is peach, blue and white. Tile and porcelain are used for fixtures and the floor is asphalt tile.

Main features of the larger bedroom is an unique three mirror ef-

fect separating two closets. The color scheme is based on two prints above the 18th century, mahogany bed. Drapes for the picture window are turquoise and walls are ivory. A white crocheted spread is on the bed.

Also different is the circular stone chimney which can be seen for miles as it extends far above the roof of the house. Much of the stonework on the chimney and inside of the home was done by Duncan.

The Duncans, of course, like their home. It was selected after a thorough study of many types of houses.

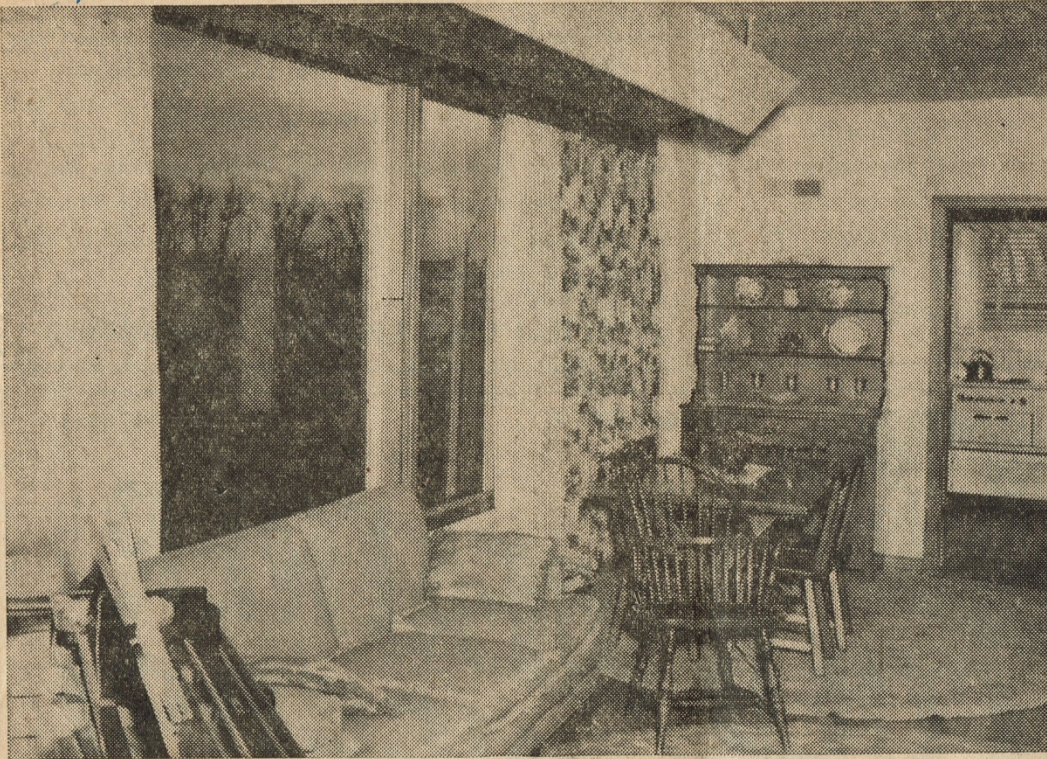
Coal has been a million-dollar-per-year industry in Kansas for 65 years, a record unsurpassed by any other Kansas mineral industry, according to figures kept by the State Geological Survey at the University of Kansas.

Page 4

The Great Bend Tribune
Wednesday, January 18, 1950
Great Bend, Kansas

18 Jan 1950 *Great Bend Tribune* describes the new Duncan house, p. 2

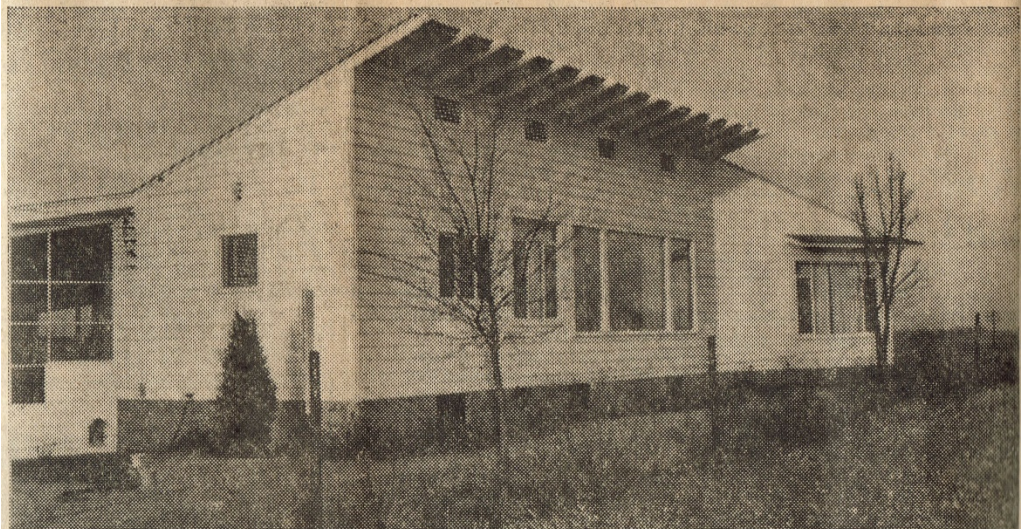
Solar Heating System Proves



Interior of the spacious living room showing the picture window to the south and the dinette in the southwest corner. The fluorescent, indirect lighting found throughout the house is pictured here by the trough effect above the sofa. It conceals three tubes. Lighting on the opposite side of the room is concealed behind white pine paneling extending from the wall about four inches

(Tribune Photo & Engraving)

Helpful But Inadequate



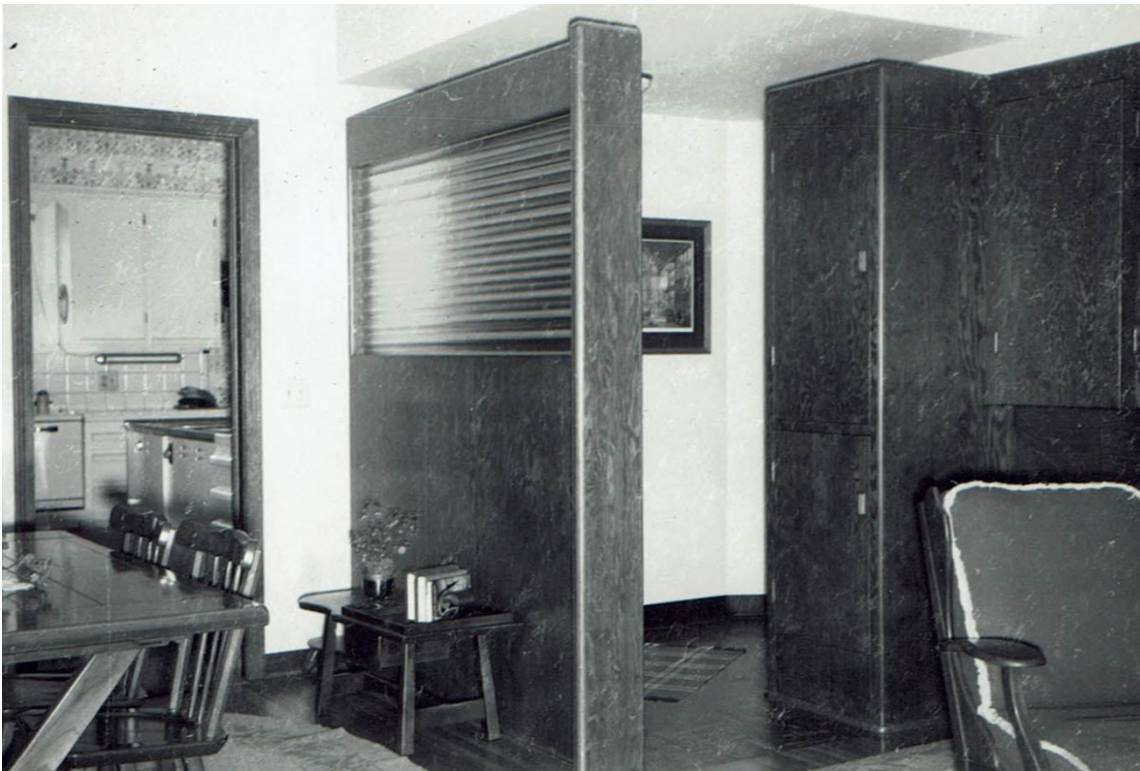
Here the principle of the solar heating system is explained. The slanting eaves are designed to catch sun rays and hold enough heat to keep the home at a comfortable temperature. This is the south side of the house and the picture window is 28 feet. It has two panes with an air space between which is not a vacuum. The theory of solar heating as explained by Mr. Duncan is thus: As the sun's rays come through the glass and strike a darker object in the house the heat is absorbed therein. The protruding eaves keep the most violent rays of the high noon sun from making the house too warm. Mr. Duncan also said the tree to the right was planted to help shade the house during the summer months. He said it would probably be three years before it would be large enough to be effective. As it is now, sun rays are fading the furniture.

(Tribune Photo & Engraving)



The interior of the Duncans' house at Dartmouth. Ruth and Lorraine in upper left. The cat is Sam II, purchased in Apr 1949 in Lawrence, Kansas.

Photos dated 22 Jan 1950



Above: The entryway beyond the cabinets is on the north side of house. It gets its light through the decorative glass in the dividing wall. Kitchen and dining area on the other side.



Left: Peter and Polly in the living room.

Photos taken 22 Jan 1950

Below: The flat, treeless expanse of Kansas farmland seen through the living room window.





The Duncan house and new horse barn at the Dartmouth farm near Great Bend, Kansas, Oct 1949

**Mink in cages at Dartmouth
1955**



**Charles' mink operation at Dartmouth, looking north.
About 100 mink at times.**

Feb 1952

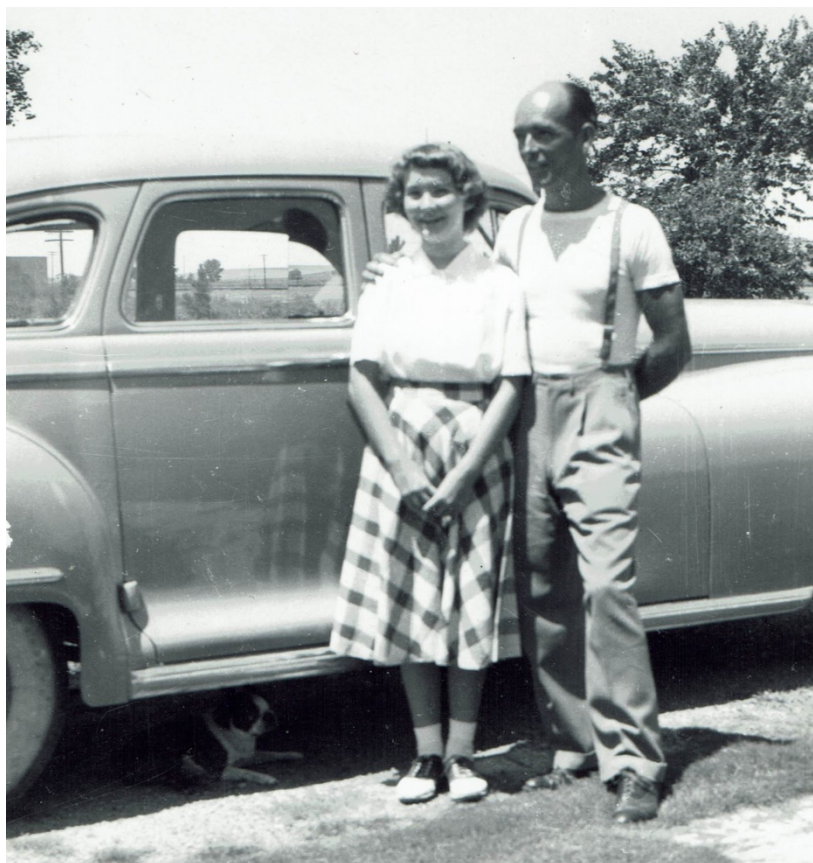




**Peter, Sam II, Ruth Duncan at Dartmouth
15 Aug 1950**



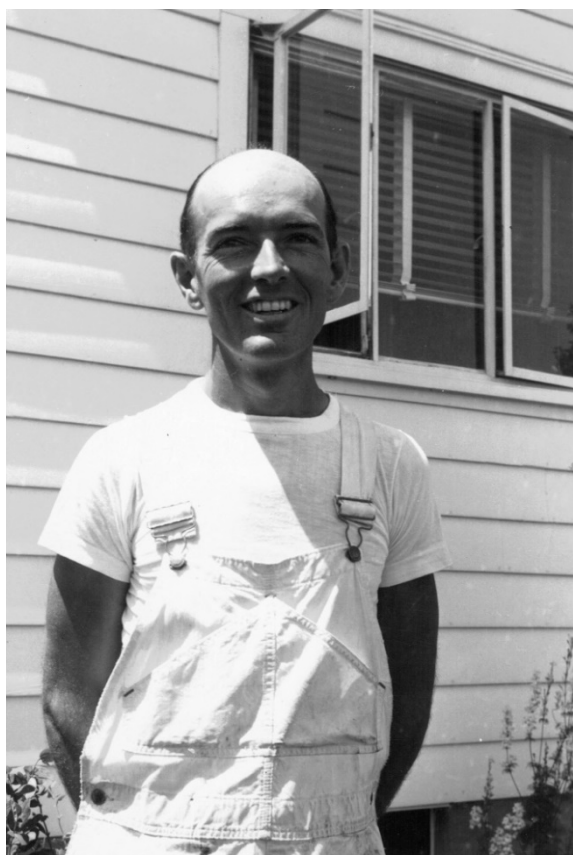
**Walnut desk, including knobs on small
drawers, made by Charles Duncan in 1951**



Lorraine and Charles Duncan, Peter under car, 2 Aug 1950



Dartmouth 1950: One Horn the steer in doorway of horse barn, Bessie in foreground, water tank and house



**Charles Duncan, Jr., Jack of All Trades,
on the farm at Dartmouth,
Jun 1950**



Dartmouth horse and steel barn, oil derrick, Jun 1951



**Lorraine Duncan, Margaret Hecke, Mary Heinz, Ruth Duncan,
McPherson High School, 19 Apr 1952**



**Charles Duncan, Jr., chauffeur,
McPherson High School,
19 Apr 1952**



**Christmas at the
D. C. and Florence
Johnson home,
Great Bend, Kansas,
1952**

**L. To R.:
D. C. Johnson,
Fernie Wagner,
Gene Wagner,
Ruth Duncan,
Charles Duncan, Jr.,
Frank Klingberg,
Lorraine Duncan,
Leota Wagner,
Florence Johnson.**



Lorraine, Charles, and Ruth Duncan, with friend Sue Platky, at the farm at Dartmouth, Jul 1954



The front and back of the Dartmouth house in Aug 1954

Charles Duncan in a welding class at Ellinwood High School featured in the 25 Jan 1955 *Great Bend Tribune*. His diary shows he also attended in 1961. Charles had worked as a welding supervisor during WWII in California.



ALL EYES ARE TURNED TOWARD the instructor, H. M. Goss, as the Ellinwood welding school gets under way. Farmers, 4-H members, vocational ag students and the public attended a school Monday at the Ellinwood high school. Cutting tools, proper methods of holding and handling plus many other facets of practical welding were explained. (Photo by Fred Meyer)



Barton County Court House, 1400 Main St., Great Bend, Kansas, built in 1918, photo taken 1975.

Lorraine Schmidt (nee Duncan), her parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents all used its services.



**Charles and Ruth at Dartmouth,
Dec 1955**



Lorraine and Ruth Duncan at Dartmouth, Dec 1955



**Florence Johnson with Lorraine making New Year's Eve dinner at
D. C. and Florence's home, 2210 Pawnee Rd., Great Bend, 1956**

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



**Lorene & Gilbert Schartz,
Ruth & Charles, Leota Klingberg,
Indian Wells, California, 17 Mar 1980**

**The Schartz family farmed for the
Duncans for decades and continue
farming for Lorraine.**

Leota was the lifetime friend of Ruth.

**Gilbert Schartz, Ruth & Charles Duncan,
back yard at 77-924 Cottonwood Cove,
Indian Wells, Jan 2002**



**Lorene Schartz, Ruth & Charles Duncan, back yard at
77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells, Jan 2002**

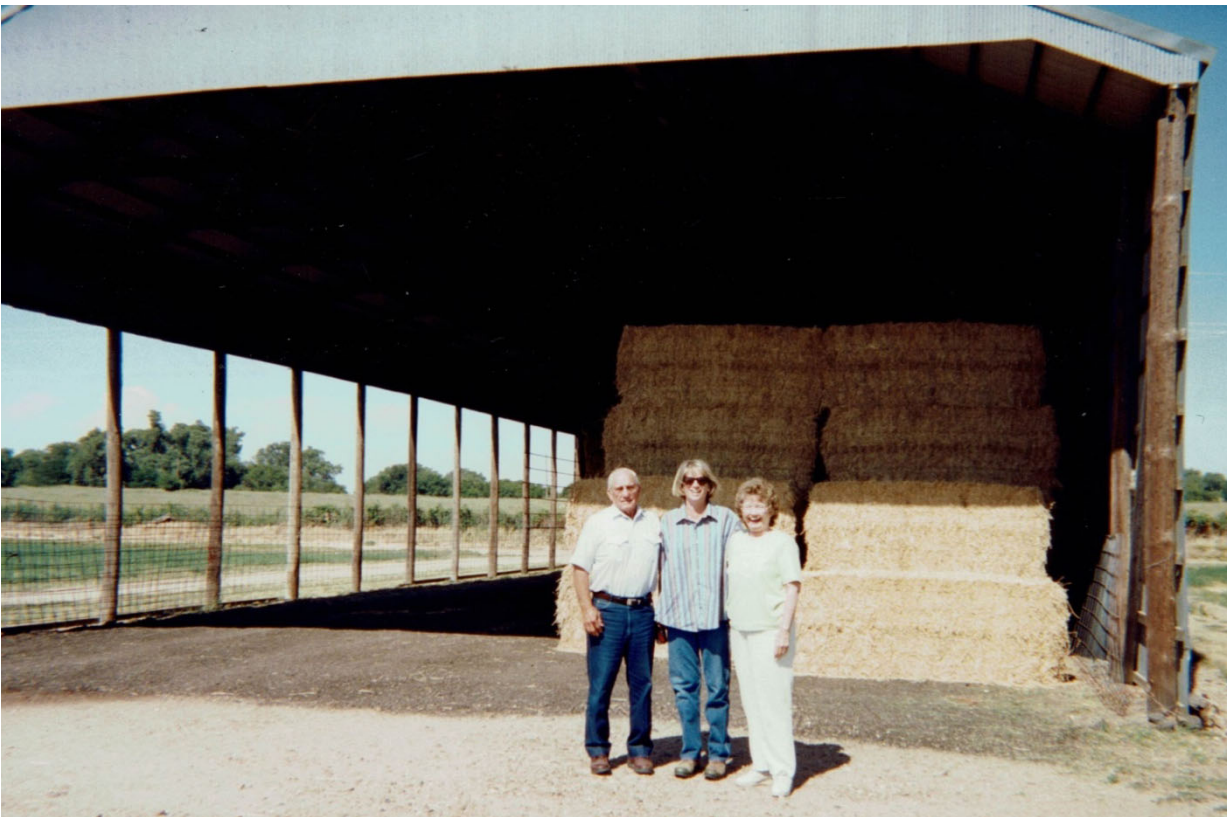
Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



Gilbert and Lorene Schartz, 2018



Gilbert and Lorene Schartz in Great Bend, Oct 2017
Photo by Caryl Lyons



**Gilbert Schartz, Kim Morgenstern,
and Lorraine Schmidt by the pole
barn hay shed
on the Duncan farm south of
Ellinwood, Kansas, Jul 2001**



The hay shed in 2008.

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



Malvern Schartz, Ruth Duncan, Evelyn Schartz at the Schartz home west of Ellinwood, Kansas, in May 1982.
Malvern farmed for the Duncans for many years.

Gary Etling who farmed Ruth and Charles' land in Ensign, Kansas, showing section 27 which produced 92 bushels of milo per acre in 2004



Mr. and Mrs. Malvern Schartz

Schartz

Mr. and Mrs. Malvern Schartz, Route 3, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary Friday, Nov. 7 with a dinner at Coachman's Inn for the family followed by a dance given by their children from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Great Bend Knights of Columbus Hall.

Hosts will be their children, Mr. and Mrs. Wally (Darlene) Jenisch of Ellinwood, Mr. and Mrs. Gary (Joan) Brown of Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Grossardt of Claflin and Mr. and Mrs. Mike (Karen) Davis, and their 10 grandchildren.

All friends and relatives are invited to the dance. They request no gifts.

**Evelyn and Malvern Schartz
40th wedding anniversary
story in the *Great Bend Tribune***



A really nice milo crop, Dekalb type DK42Y, yielded 77 bushels per acre, Charles and Ruth Duncan farm, Kansas, 1985

**Charles & Ruth Duncan's steel barn
at Dartmouth, 20 Sep 1999.**



**Wheat harvest and alfalfa bales on the
truck, both at Dartmouth
on 21 Jun 2001**



Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



Jean Maffei, a neighbor from 80th St. in Inglewood, California, Jun 1960. Jean had been a piano student of Ruth's.



Janice (center) and her children Jean and Ronald Maffei at their home on 80th St., Inglewood, Jul 1956



Dora May and Homer Place, who was Charles' best man. Photo taken Jun 1953



Louis and Blanche Fisher, friends from Southern California. Louis and Charles rode horses together in the 1940s. Photo taken 1983



Dr. M. M. Swan, Duncans' friend and family doctor in Great Bend, Kansas. Photo taken about 1975

Musical Friends of Ruth Duncan



L to R: Emma Lou Rounsavell, Ruth Carey, Ruth Duncan, Cleo Tregellas, and Mrs. Robinson at Parrish Hotel, Great Bend, Kansas, 1962 or 1963



L to R: Trio of Ruth Duncan, Emma Lou Rounsavell, and Ruth Carey at Masonic Temple, Great Bend, Kansas, 7 Nov 1959



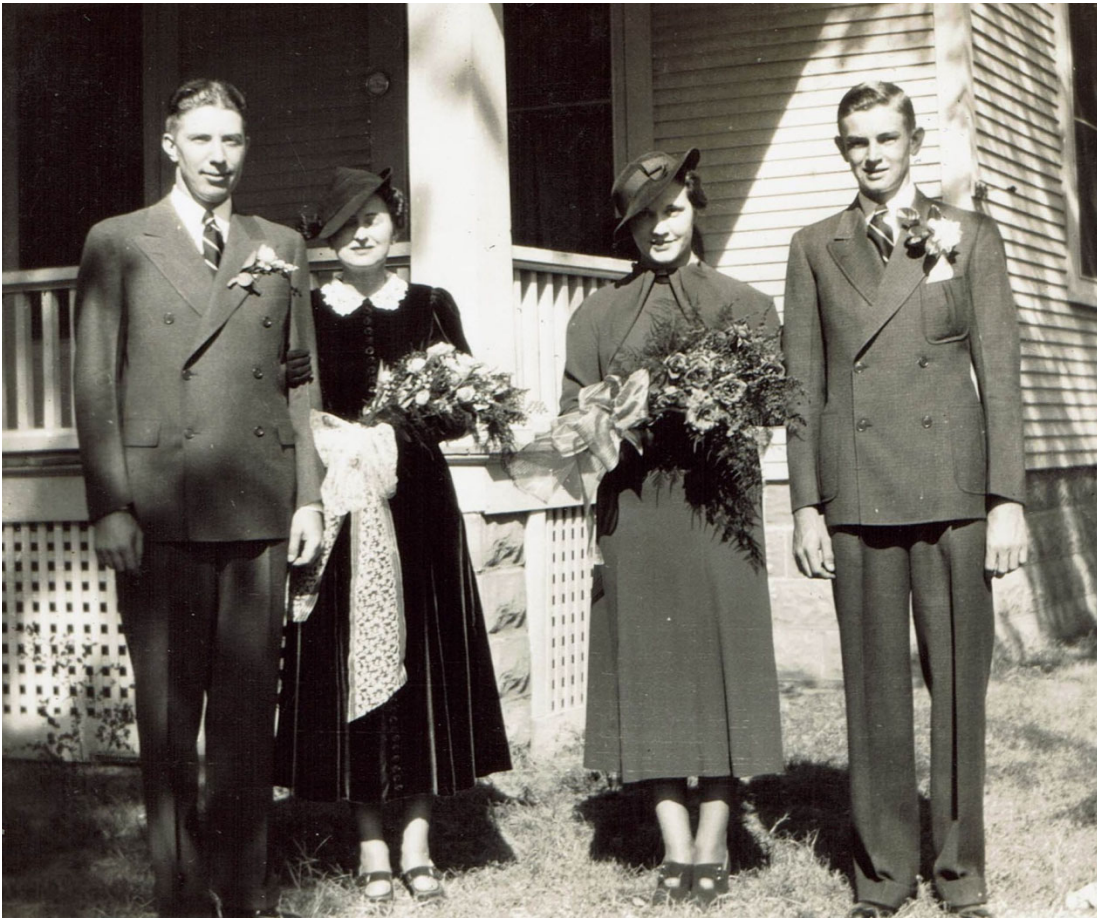
Ruth Carey will be playing the viola at the Palm Sunday Vesper Music Service to be held in the Congregational Church April 4 at 3 p.m. On the program will be music by the Chancel Choir, Lyric Singers, string players, harpsichord and soloists. Vocal soloists will be Barbara Jones, Mary Lou Fryberger, Gerald Packham, Mary Weil, Edward Jones. The combined choirs will sing "Awake My Heart" by Marshall, and the Bach Cantata "Christ Lay in Death's Dark Prison."

Ruth Carey playing viola at the Congregational church on Palm Sunday, 4 Apr 1971, article likely from the *Great Bend Tribune*, Kansas



George and Cleo Tregellas, Great Bend Kansas. Photo taken 1990

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



Frank and Leota's wedding party
L. to R.:
Frank Klingberg,
Leota Wagner,
Pearle Klingberg,
Daryl Wagner, at the
Wagner house,
Ellinwood, Kansas,
1 Sep 1936

The Klingbergs were married at the Evangelical and Reformed Church, which became part of the United Church of Christ. The reception was at the Wagner home.



Frank and Leota Klingberg about 1936



Gene and Fernie Wagner,
Leota and Frank Klingberg, in
front of Wagner home on
Main St., Ellinwood, Kansas,
22 Jun 1941

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



**Leota and Frank,
Klingberg with
their daughter,
24 Dec 1942**



**Fernie and Gene
Wagner with
granddaughter,
24 Dec 1942**



**Frank and Leota
Klingberg at the
Huntington
Library,
San Marino,
California,
22 Mar 1980**



**Frank and Leota
Klingberg, 1988**

Friends of Charles and Ruth Duncan



**Ruth and Charles Duncan with
Leota Klingberg at the Duncans' home in
Indian Wells, California, 21 Apr 1996**

**Frank Klingberg,
Ruth and Charles Duncan
on Charles' 86th birthday,
22 Apr 1996**



Frank and Leota Klingberg with Ruth and Charles Duncan at the Duncans' home in Indian Wells, Feb 2000





Charles & Ruth Duncan's house, 46-370 Manitou Dr., Indian Wells, May 1977. They lived here from 1968-1979.



Earl Johnson and his first cousin Ruth Duncan at the Duncan home at 77-311 Sioux Dr., Indian Wells, California, Feb 1981.



Ruth Duncan, Summer 1987

**Summer
Home
1987-1997**

**26401 Calle
Roberto,
San Juan
Capistrano,
California.**

**Charles and
Ruth
Duncan with
Lorraine
Feb 1988**





Charles & Ruth's house at 26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano, which was purchased partially furnished. Shown here in Mar 1987, a few months before they moved in.

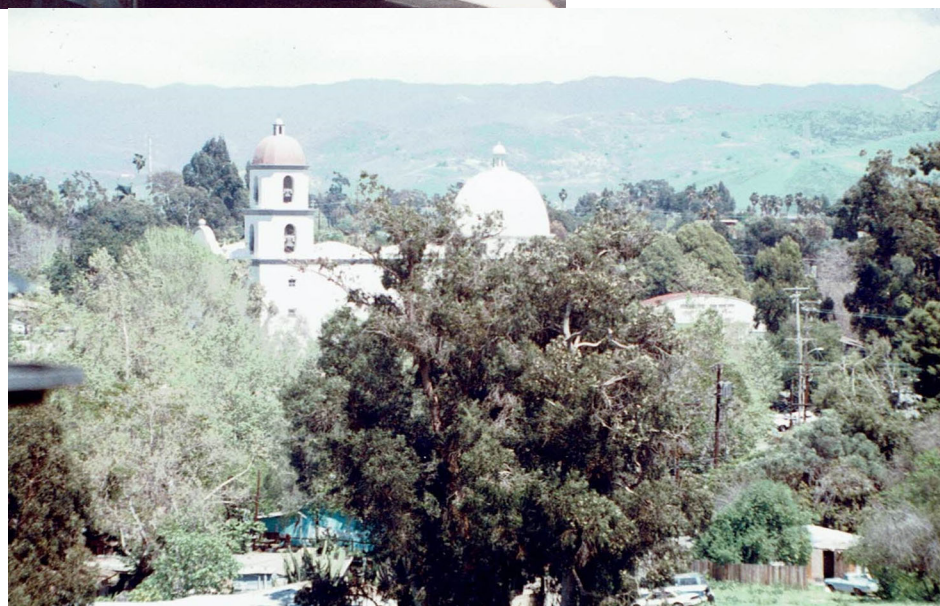




**Charles & Ruth's house,
26401 Calle Roberto,
San Juan Capistrano,
Summer 1987**

**Views from 26401 Calle Roberto,
San Juan Capistrano, of Mission
Basilica San Juan Capistrano.**

Summer 1987





Views from 26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano, above in summer 1987 and below in 21 Apr 1991.





Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano on 6 Feb 1988 seen from Charles & Ruth's house at 26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano. Below, their living room in 1992.



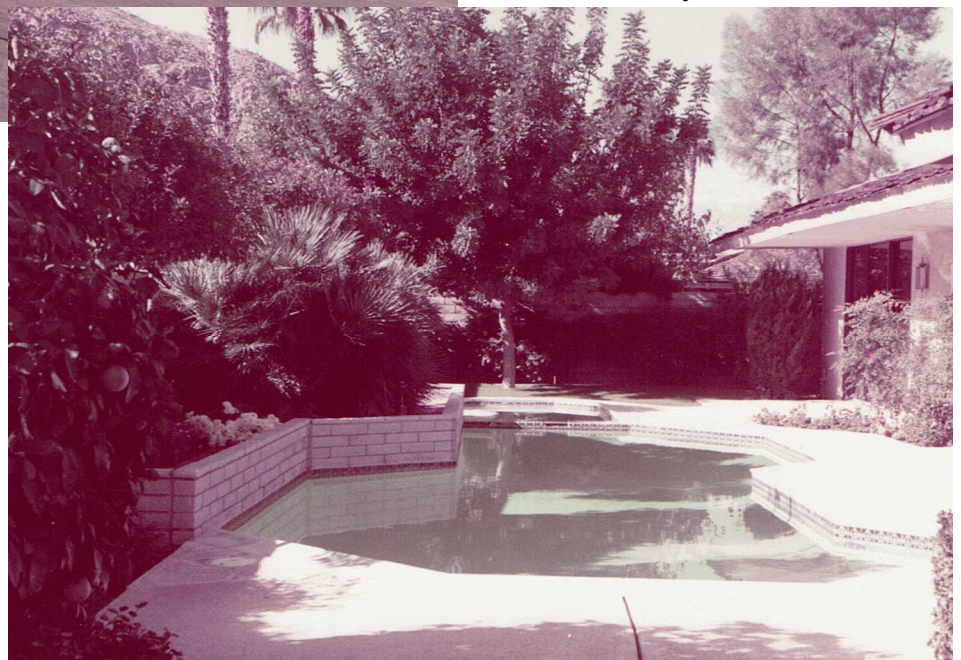


Above, Charles & Ruth's desert home from 1978-1998 at 77-311 Sioux Dr., Indian Wells, Apr 1991.



Left, the golf course near their home with the snow-capped mountains in the distance.

Below, the back yard of their home.





Ruth at the piano in 1993 at their desert home from 1978-1998 at 77-311 Sioux Dr., Indian Wells. Photos of room, taken in 1991, show Ruth's needlepoint pillows and Charles' coffee table.





Charles & Ruth Duncan, about to eat Thanksgiving dinner off Florence Johnson's antique Haviland china at 77-311 Sioux Dr, Indian Wells, Nov 1992. [Ignore the weird shadows making Charles appear to have very hairy arms.]



Guest bathroom at the Sioux Dr. home.



**Blanche Fisher, Charles and Ruth in backyard of the Duncan house at 26401 Calle Roberto,
San Juan Capistrano, 12 Sep 1995**



Koko, Charles & Ruth Duncan's pug, summer of 1995



White clay sculpture of a woman by Charles Duncan, 1997. It was later bronzed.



Front of Charles & Ruth's house, 77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells, May 1998



**Front entry and living room of Charles & Ruth's house, 77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells.
May 1998. Above is Charles' metal bamboo tree and Pug dog sculpture.
Below are Ruth's needlepoint pillows and on the coffee table is Charles' equestrian statue.**





Living room of Charles & Ruth's house, 77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells. May 1998



Several of Charles' sculptures can be seen here, especially the clay male nude and alabaster horse head on the right side of the room.



Master Bathroom of Charles & Ruth's house on Cottonwood Cove in Indian Wells

**Secondary
bathroom of
Charles & Ruth's
house at
77-924
Cottonwood Cove,
Indian Wells.
May 1998**

**Charles made the
female nude
sculpture and later
had it bronzed.**





Back yard of Charles & Ruth's house, 77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells. May 1998



View from Charles and Ruth's home at 77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells. Jan 2002

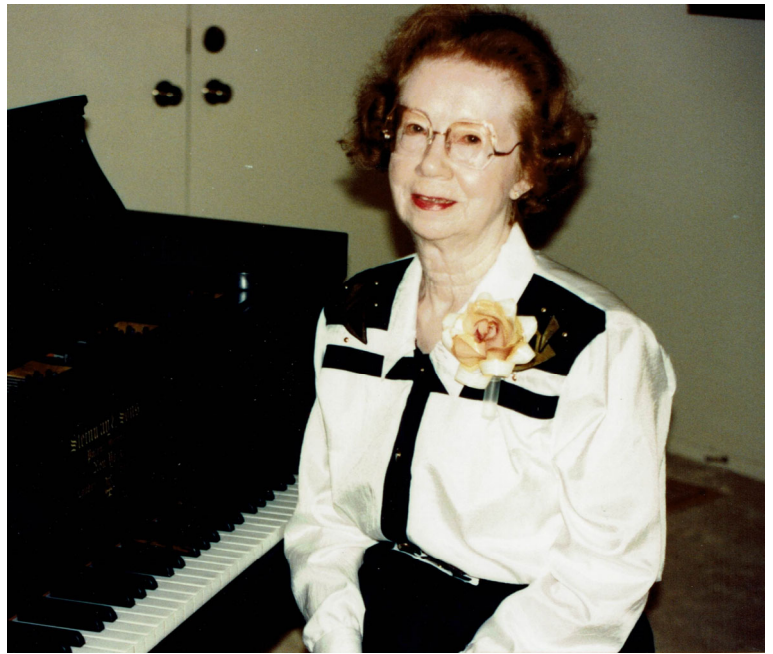


**Back yard of Charles & Ruth's house,
77-924 Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells.
May 1998**





**Charles Duncan, Jr., on 80th birthday in
San Juan Capistrano.
22 Apr 1990**



Ruth Duncan at home, May 1992



**Ruth and Charles at home in Indian Wells
30 Jan 1995**



Ruth and Charles in their Indian Wells home in Feb 2000

**Charles and Ruth
in Cottonwood Cove, Indian Wells,
Summer 2001**





Left: Charles Duncan, Jr., on his 95th Birthday at Brighton Gardens of Rancho Mirage, California, 22 Apr 2005

Below, L to R: Ruth Duncan, Helen Martin, Charles, Delores & Dr. Fredericks, Lorraine Schmidt





Above: Ruth and Charles Duncan, Jr., with daughter Lorraine Schmidt, celebrating Charles' 95th birthday on 22 Apr 2005

**Standing: Lorraine Schmidt & friend Dale Johnson,
Seated: Ruth and Charles Duncan, Mary Smith**

Below: Charles' 95th Birthday Gathering, Brighton Gardens of Rancho Mirage, California, 22 Apr 2005



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

3200533011357

STATE FILE NUMBER		STATE OF CALIFORNIA USE BLACK INK ONLY - NO ERASURES, WHITEOUTS OR ALTERATIONS VS-11 (REV 1/04)		LOCAL REGISTRATION NUMBER	
1. NAME OF DECEDENT - FIRST (Given)		2. MIDDLE		3. LAST (Family)	
CHARLES		-		DUNCAN JR.	
AKA, ALSO KNOWN AS - Include full AKA (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)		4. DATE OF BIRTH mm/dd/ccyy		5. AGE Yrs	
-		04/22/1910		95	
6. SEX		7. DATE OF DEATH mm/dd/ccyy		8. HOUR (24 Hours)	
M		11/18/2005		0230	
9. BIRTH STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY		10. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		11. EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES?	
PI		568-05-5325		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK	
12. MARITAL STATUS (at Time of Death)		13. EDUCATION - Highest Level/Degree (use worksheet on back)		14/15. WAS DECEDENT HISPANIC/LATINO(A)/SPANISH? (If yes, see worksheet on back)	
MARRIED		HS GRADUATE		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
16. DECEDENT'S RACE - Up to 3 races may be listed (see worksheet on back)		17. USUAL OCCUPATION - Type of work for most of life. DO NOT USE RETIRED		18. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY (e.g., grocery store, road construction, employment agency, etc.)	
WHITE		FARMER		FARMING	
19. YEARS IN OCCUPATION		20. DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (Street and number or location)		21. CITY	
60		77305 BLACK MOUNTAIN TRAIL		INDIAN WELLS	
22. COUNTY/PROVINCE		23. ZIP CODE		24. YEARS IN COUNTY	
RIVERSIDE		92210		38	
25. STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY		26. INFORMANT'S NAME, RELATIONSHIP		27. INFORMANT'S MAILING ADDRESS (Street and number or rural route number, city or town, state, ZIP)	
CA		RUTH LORRAINE DUNCAN, WIFE		77305 BLACK MOUNTAIN TRAIL, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210	
28. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE - FIRST		29. MIDDLE		30. LAST (Maiden Name)	
RUTH		LORRAINE		JOHNSON	
31. NAME OF FATHER - FIRST		32. MIDDLE		33. LAST	
CHARLES		-		DUNCAN	
34. BIRTH STATE		35. NAME OF MOTHER - FIRST		36. MIDDLE	
ENGLAND		FRANCES		S.	
37. LAST (Maiden)		38. BIRTH STATE		39. DISPOSITION DATE mm/dd/ccyy	
NE		GEE		11/25/2005	
40. PLACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION		41. TYPE OF DISPOSITION(S)		42. SIGNATURE OF EMBALMER	
LAKIN-COMANCHE CEMETERY, 501 E. D STREET, ELLINWOOD, KS 67526		CR/TR/BU		NOT EMBALMED	
43. LICENSE NUMBER		44. NAME OF FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT		45. LICENSE NUMBER	
-		FOREST LAWN CATHEDRAL CITY		FD 1847	
46. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR		47. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		48. IF HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE	
GARY M. FELDMAN, MD		11/23/2005		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IP <input type="checkbox"/> ER/OP <input type="checkbox"/> DOA <input type="checkbox"/> Hospice	
49. IF OTHER THAN HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE		50. CITY		51. DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home/LTC <input type="checkbox"/> Decedent's Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other		RANCHO MIRAGE		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
52. PLACE OF DEATH		53. FACILITY ADDRESS OR LOCATION WHERE FOUND (Street and number or location)		54. TIME INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH	
BRIGHTON GARDENS OF RANCHO MIRAGE		72201 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE		MINS	
55. CAUSE OF DEATH		56. IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Final disease or condition resulting in death)		57. DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER?	
ARRHYTHMIA		(A) →		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
58. UNDERLYING CAUSE (disease or injury that initiated the events resulting in death) LAST		59. ARTERIOSCLEROTIC HEART DISEASE		60. BICOPSY PERFORMED?	
107. CAUSE OF DEATH		108. YRS		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
109. AUTOPSY PERFORMED?		110. USED IN DETERMINING CAUSE?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
111. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RESULTING IN THE UNDERLYING CAUSE GIVEN IN 107		112. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEM 107 OR 112? (If yes, list type of operation and date.)		113. IF FEMALE, PREGNANT IN LAST YEAR?	
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE		NO		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK	
114. I CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE, AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.		115. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF CERTIFIER		116. LICENSE NUMBER	
Decedent Attended Since		Decedent Last Seen Alive		A033981	
(A) mm/dd/ccyy		(B) mm/dd/ccyy		117. DATE mm/dd/ccyy	
11/18/2005		11/18/2005		11/22/2005	
118. TYPE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, ZIP CODE		119. I CERTIFY THAT IN MY OPINION DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE, AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.		120. INJURED AT WORK?	
ROBERT F. STEINBERG, M.D.		73211 FRED WARING DRIVE, PALM DESERT, CA 92260		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK	
121. INJURY DATE mm/dd/ccyy		122. HOUR (24 Hours)		123. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., home, construction site, wooded area, etc.)	
124. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (Events which resulted in injury)		125. LOCATION OF INJURY (Street and number, or location, and city, and ZIP)		126. SIGNATURE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER	
127. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		128. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		FAX AUTH. #	
129. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		130. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
131. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		132. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		CENSUS TRACT	
133. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		134. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
135. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		136. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
137. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		138. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
139. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		140. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
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369. DATE mm/dd/ccyy		370. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER		11/23/2005	
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Charles Duncan, Jr. ————— 1910 - 2005

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — Charles Duncan, Jr., 95, died Nov. 18 in Rancho Mirage, Calif., of Alzheimer's disease. He was born April 22, 1910, to Charles Duncan and Frances Gee in Manila, P.I. He married Ruth Johnson on June 12, 1937, in Long Beach, Calif. He was a welding supervisor at Northrop Aircraft Co., for nine years and had farming interests in Kansas.



Duncan

the Indian Wells Country Club.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Duncan of Indian Wells, Calif.; and one daughter, Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, Calif. He was preceded in death by one brother, George Duncan; and one sister, Agnes Lohr.

Burial will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood with Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood, in charge. Phone number is 620-564-2300. No services will be held.

*Funeral arrangements provided by
Forest Lawn Memorial
69855 Ramon Rd.
Cathedral City, CA 92234
760-328-3102*

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Nov. 24, 2005

**Obituary of Charles Duncan, Jr., in the 24 Nov 2005
Great Bend Tribune**

Charles Duncan

Charles Duncan, 95, of Indian Wells, California, died November 18, 2005, in Rancho Mirage, California of Alzheimer's Disease. He was born April 22, 1910, to Charles Duncan and Frances Gee in Manila, P.I.

He married Ruth Johnson on June 12, 1937 in Long Beach, California. He as a welding supervisor at Northrup Aircraft Co for nine years and had farming interests in Kansas. He was a member of the Indian Wells Country Club.

He is survived by his wife Ruth Duncan of Indian Wells, California, one daughter Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, California. He was preceded in death by a brother George Duncan and sister Agnes Lohr.

Burial will be in the Lakin-Comanche Cemetery in Ellinwood with Kimple Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Prior arrangements were by Forest Lawn Mortuary in Cathedral City, California. No services will be held.

**Obituary of Charles Duncan, Jr.,
in the 24 Nov 2005
Ellinwood Leader**

**The following 11 pages are the
Autobiography of Charles Duncan, Jr., written 31 Oct 1982**

I, Charles Duncan, Jr., was born April 22, 1910 in the Army Hospital in Manilla, P.I. at a time when my father, Charles Duncan was stationed there after having recently been married to my mother, formerly Frances Salina Gee of Albion, Nebraska.

My only knowledge of the time there was from what was told to me latter by my parents. All that I remember them saying was that we lived in Manilla, probably somewhere near the beach which they spoke of as the Luneta where we would walk at times. They spoke of having one house burned down by a fire which swept the neighborhood after being started by mountain men who would bring lumber down to sell and if sales were slow, would start a fire to stimulate business.

We went in the summer to a mountain resort called Bagiao which was the summer seat of Government when Manilla was hot and humid. Mother told of going there in automobiles of the time which were touring cars and had no doors so she had to hang on to my sister Agnes and I to keep from falling out going around the curves on the mountain roads. I mean she kept US from falling out.

Agnes, who was a year and a half younger than I was not doing too well with the climate and food and Mother was not in the best of health either, so when I was two and a half years old Mother, Agnes and I returned to the States ahead of my Father, who followed later when his tour of duty there was ended.

We went to stay in Wisconsin with my Aunt Mary and Uncle Pete Martin until my Father returned at which time we rejoined him in San Francisco where we lived for some time and where my first memories start. We probably left the Phillipines in the fall of 1912 and went to San Francisco a few months later.

We lived in three different places on 7th Ave. in S.F. which was close to the Presidio where my Father was working and also not too far to downtown where he was in the Monadnock Building part of the time. We didn't have a car but there were street cars all over town so he could get to work easily. He was rated as an Army Field Clerk during all this time which was the same as Warrent Officer and during the World War period up to 1918 he was assigned to the Army Intelligence Dept. His commission as Second Lieutenant was issued but the Armistice was signed at the same time so he kept his original rank.

When I was at the usual age I started to school and went up through about 5th grade before we left San Francisco. I learned to ride a bike and remember riding down to the Cliff House at the beach and up to the top of Twin Peaks which was all pasture then. I also rode around the old Fair Grounds where the 1915 Exposition had been held and the Palace of Fine Arts was still standing and is to this day. The plaster statue of "The End of the Trail" was still there with a big hole in the side of the horse.

(2)

When Agnes and I were still small Mother took us down on a small ocean liner to Los Angeles and on to Whittier for a visit with my Aunt Agnes and Uncle Max Taylor who had a boy named Billy. We returned home a few days later on the train. Aunt Agnes died in the influenza epidemic of 1918 and we kept Billy for a while until Uncle Max could care for him. Billy was about 2 years old at this time.

During all this period there were no bridges across the bay so all traffic went on ferry boats. The eastern end terminals were at long keys extending out to deep water and electric trains went in on the keys to various towns.

For the last couple of years in San Francisco we moved to a house that was in the south end of town in a somewhat rural area and Agnes and I went to a small grade school nearby. At that time my Father continued the raising of dahlias and had great results with the soil there. Some of his blossoms were more than a foot across. This was our last home in San Francisco and I believe it was about 1920 when we moved to Omaha. My Father and I went first on the train and got a place to live and then Mother and Agnes followed soon after. It was snowing when we arrived and this was my first snow.

We moved into a small house in the middle of town and Agnes and I slept in the two upstairs bedrooms, unheated except for what heat came up the stair well from below. In the winter the windows would have frost patterns all over the glass. A coal burning furnace in the basement heated the main floor. There was a large vacant area behind the house and a dairy and milk business near by with horse drawn wagons to deliver the milk. A lot of fine horses were kept there and they were so well trained that they would walk down the street when the driver was going from door to door and would move up when ever the driver would whistle. Not many trucks will do that.

While we lived in this house the city started building the new Polytechnic High School which I later attended. I remember watching the excavation work being done with a power shovel which was steam operated with a boiler which had to be fired with coal. All the dirt was hauled away in mule drawn dump wagons and an extra team had to be attached to get the wagons up out of the hole. Those mules worked far harder than the milk horses and probably wore out fast. Gasoline has sure spared a lot of horses and mules a life of drudgery.

I joined the Boy Scouts when I was twelve and used to go to a summer camp each summer that was south of town by the Missouri River. I mostly remember the hordes of mosquitoes which about drained us dry. Part of the time my Father was stationed at Fort Crook which was also south of town and it made a long ride on the street car for him. He also spent some time at Fort Omaha north of town and at the Army Building which was in the down town area. During much of this time he was involved with the operations of the ROTC program at the Colleges in the mid-states.

(3)

Agnes and I both finished grade school while in Omaha and I started to Polytechnic High School in the fall of 1924 as a freshman. I took a number of shop classes as well as the usual subjects. This school had excellent facilities for most shop subjects and I took machine shop, sheet metal, forging, electrical, wood working and three years of mechanical drawing. Some of these I took in summer classes as extra studies. I finished the 11th grade at this school before we left Omaha. At this time Agnes was one year behind me in school.

It was during this time that my brother George was born when I was 15 years old. We were living at a small house a little west of the high school at the time and George was born in this house. Shortly after we moved to an apartment house just west of the down town area and Agnes and I rode our bikes to school which was a dozen or so blocks away, with hills, and some times very cold and snow. I remember getting to school one morning with frost bite in one hand that carried the books.

We also lived for a while in a house north of town a ways with street cars running by, up to late at night and starting early in the morning. At first they would wake me up but after a while I got used to the clatter. I often got car sick riding on street cars and on looking back, I think it was partly the motion and partly the ozone which was generated by the brushes in the electric drive motors which arced a lot. I can still remember that smell and can identify it easily whenever I smell it again.

Over a period of many years my Father and all the other Army Field Clerks had been trying to get Congress to change them all to Warrent Officers because due to an oversight many years before, Army Field Clerks had never been provided with retirement privileges as were all other military groups. As Warrent Officers they would be able to retire when enough time had been served. My Father by now had over 30 years to his credit, counting all his foreign service at double time as was the law at that time. Congress finally passed this measure so he was now thinking seriously of retireing. He did so in the summer of 1927 and chose Long Beach, Calif. as his place of retirement so that the Army would provide him and the furniture, transportation to that location. In those times, the rest of the family had to make these moves at their own expense.

In that summer, of 1927, I got a job at five dollars a week at a down town used car dealer as a helper and considering that I had never driven a car, it took some talking to get the job. I learned to drive by just getting in a car and driving, first with a Ford Model T and a couple of days later with a Willys Whippet which had a regular gear shift. I made several trips out into rural Nebraska with my Boss to deliver and pick up cars and was soon driving all the cars of those times, Marmons, Mercers, Graham-Paige, Hupmobils, Rickenbakers and many others. As a result of all this, when the family was ready to leave on the train for California, I stayed behind for a couple of weeks with some friends named Taylor and then drove out to Los Angeles with my Boss and two other of his employees in an 8 cylinder Auburn Sedan which was quite a car for its time. We averaged about 55 miles per hour over the gravel roads which was all there were until we got to the California line at Needles where we had black top the rest of the way.

(4)

During that last summer in Omaha I had a scary ride in an old black Essex sedan driven by one of the other employees of the used car company. A large cloud of smoke showed up north of the downtown area and some of the men and myself got in this car to drive out and see what was burning. On the way, as we started down a long hill with a busy intersection at the bottom the driver discovered that he had no brakes. A pin had slipped out letting the mechanical brake linkage fall apart. He discovered that the emergency brake didn't work either so he just leaned on the horn which fortunatly did work and we shot through that intersection at about 50 miles per hour against the signal. I guess we were lucky that time. When we coasted to a stop, one of the men hooked up the brakes again so we could continue. The fire turned out to be an enormous wooden warehouse that was being used to store the floats for an annual parade put on by the Ak-sar-ben club which was Nebraska spelled backwards. This was a sort of Mardi Gras type celebration. The floats were on steel flanged wheels and ran on the street car tracks with a trolley picking up power from the overhead wire to light all the lights on the floats. Big teams of draft horses pulled the floats and they were all decorated up, too. Because of the fire no parade was held that year as all the floats were destroyed.

After the move to Long Beach Agnes and I continued on with our schooling. I had one more year to finish High School and she had two. We went to the nearby Technical High School and I had to take extra courses to graduate and get enough credits to make the Honor Roll. I lost some credits in the move from Omaha. I graduated in the spring of 1928. Due to the family income being reduced by my Fathers retirement, it was necessary for me to get a job right away. He had hoped to get work at something after retirement, and did briefly get work in Los Angeles with the Bank of America but the big depression and the stock market crash was coming and the Southern California area had little industry at that time so he never found any further employment after that.

I managed to get a job with the California Garage in Long Beach and worked there parking cars and working in the machine shop for about a year until this company went out of business. I then got a job with the Los Angeles Branch of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank in the mail and messenger department. Normally one only stayed in that dep't. for about six months, but due to the very hard times that now had set in, I was in that dep't. for about four years. There was very little turnover during that time. Any one that had a job of any kind hung on to it. Finally came the Bank Holliday when all the banks closed by Government order because so many banks were ~~were~~ failing.

Real estate values plunged downward and many foreclosures took place and people took their money out of the banks. Many Savings and Loan companies went broke, too. Our bank kept open during the time all the regular banks were closed and when the banks were finally allowed to reopen, a flood of checks began pouring through the Clearing Houses and our Country Clearings dep't. that just about swamped us. I was promoted to this dep't. at that time and stayed there for the rest of my employment at the Bank.

(5)

In 1934 I bought my first new car which was a Willys 77 after having had several used cars, mostly Ford Model T and a Model A. During much of the time at the bank I continued to live with my parents in Long Beach and either drove in to work or rode on the Pacific Electric trains. The old Depot was at 6th and Main so it made a good walk over to the Bank at 10th and Olive, besides walking from 7th and Daisy in Long Beach over to American Ave. to catch the train.

During part of that time I was sent out to the Clearing Houses at several neighboring cities for the daily country clearings. These were at Hollywood, Santa Monica, Pasadena and Long Beach, so sometimes I would just check in at the Bank and turn right around and head back to one of those cities for the clearings. There was also the Los Angeles clearing house which we covered each morning.

About 1934 I rented an apartment in Los Angeles and lived there so it would be easier to get to work. At this time I also dropped out of the Christian Science church in Long Beach which I probably never would have joined if it hadn't been that Mother just seemed to take it for granted that I would after going to Sunday School all my life, which was also her idea. I never went back.

During this period I also joined a club called the Turnverin Germania which was mostly an athletic club with some social activities. I really enjoyed going to the gym twice a week for workouts and did quite a bit of weight lifting too. They had a dining room and bar that was called the Rathskeller where I could eat on the evenings when I went there for workouts. A friend at the Bank named George Pinckney, who was a very good gymnast, got me interested in joining. When War 2 came along and it wasn't so popular to be German, they changed the name to something more American, but I forget what.

During this period I also got interested in horseback riding and went to rental stables some with my sister and other friends sometimes. I finally bought a bay mare named Sissy which I boarded at a place called the Lomita Riding Academy which was near Huntington Beach. I learned to play a little Polo and got fairly good at it and also got interested in Horse Shows and the 3 and 5 gaited events. This place was run by Otto Roseau *Roseau* and Homer Place who I got to be very good friends with, especially Homer. I learned a great deal about horses and riding from Homer and he was a very fine horseman in spite of a bad curvature of the spine condition. A very fine gentleman.

In the mid 30's my parents and brother George moved up to San Francisco to live but didn't stay very long. A year or so if I remember right. This was when I was living in Los Angeles. They drove up in an Oakland sedan which they got second hand and while they were there, my Father learned to drive, which was a hard town to learn in, what with all the hills. I taught Mother to drive and she learned quickly, being kind of mechanically inclined. I think I got that from her.

(6)

I never cared too much for the bank type of work and finally in about 1936, after talking things over with the head of Personnal, I left the bank after 6 1/2 years to take a chance on getting into some other kind of work. The coach at the athletic club got me an interview at the American Can Co. in Los Angeles and I tried out as a timekeeper but couldn't quite keep up with all the memorizing of names and numbers so I was laid off. I should have requested a transfer to the mechanical type work and would have probably done much better.

About this time Homer Place quit working with the riding club as an instructor and started a small business of making and repairing saddles, bridles and other leather work. I went in as a partner with him and we worked at this for some time. He was married and had a small boy, and I ate meals with them and we all managed to eat regularly, at least, but it was not much more than that.

I met my wife to be at this time and we saw a lot of each other and soon decided that we wanted to get married. She was Ruth Lorraine Johnson, living in Long Beach. Homer finally got a job with the Long Beach Water Department and we gave up on the saddery business.

I next started taking lessons in aircraft welding at a small school in one of the hangers at the Long Beach Airport, headed up by Glenn Arbogast as instructor and a man named Neff who had been in charge of employment at Consolidated Aircraft in San Diego. He knew most of the other personnel directors at the other factories and, after completing the course, he got me a job at Vultee Aircraft in Downey, Calif. It was as a sheet metal helper but with the understanding that I would start welding soon when more welders were needed.

After a few weeks at this, I got a call from the Northrop Division of Douglas Aircraft, located just south of what is now Los Angeles International Airport, to start in welding. I choose to take this job rather than wait for Vultee. The head of the welding department was a man named Martin Chappell and he was much disliked by most of the men who worked under him, but we got along well.

After I got working again, Ruth and I were able to get married which we did on June 12, 1937 at a wedding at Ruth's parents home. We lived briefly in an apartment in Los Angeles and later in a small apartment in Compton. Later the Johnsons had a small house in Long Beach on Spaulding St. which they let us use and it was while we were there that our daughter Lorraine was born. We stayed there for some time and before long the United Auto Workers Union that our small Aircraft Welders Union was affiliated with, put us all out on strike, just at a time when the plant had run out of work, which was great timing.

(7)

During this period when we were out on strike, I decided to try to learn arc welding as all I had learned so far was torch welding. There was a small welding school nearby on Anaheim St. and I enrolled there and went through their course. I believe we were out on strike for about ten weeks before I was called back to do arc welding on jigs for a new contract ~~the~~ the company had gotten. By this time the strike had been forgotten and the workers were more than glad to go back to work. After the plant started to build planes again, I got back on welding plane parts again and was given the chance to learn aluminum welding with oxy-hydrogen and welded many aluminum gasoline and oil tanks. This was before they started to make them of neoprene.

As the war with Germany and Japan was growing nearer, the industry finally started to use arc welding on aircraft parts and I was sent over to the Santa Monica Douglas to learn to weld small with the arc. This was easy after my previous experience with arc.

About this time, which would be about 1941, Jack Northrop decided to start his own company with the plant to be located in Hawthorne, Calif. Marty Chappell, my boss invited me to go with him down to the new plant and I agreed. I was the first welder to start off the new welding department and had welders stamp number 1. We had to stamp every weld we made in case of weld failure. I believe there were only about 75 shop employees on the payroll when I signed on. That is, in the entire plant.

We started off with an order for about 19 sea-planes for the government of Norway and I did lots of welding on those first planes. Ruth and I drove up to Lake Elsinore one Sunday morning to see the first one fly for the first time, which it did, with no problems. Soon after this, Jack Northrop got started on his flying wing design and the first flying model was built with the pilot flying it laying on his belly with a chin rest to hold up his head. I did all the welding on this plane and an old body and fender man named Bob Brownell pounded out all the aluminum duct work for the cooling air, as the two engines were buried in the wing on each side of the pilot, with pusher props. It flew beautifully and finally ended up in the Smithsonian Museum.

My old friend, Russell Merideth, had also come to Northrop and one of the projects we worked on was to try to find a way to weld magnesium. I did some welding with a flux coated rod, but it was impossible to get rid of all the flux and corrosion would always set in. I finally had had enough of working under Marty Chappell and I quit and went to North American Aviation, where I worked on the night shift for eight months, mostly welding body frames for training planes, which were in great demand as the war was getting started.

(8)

During this period, Russ Merideth came up with the idea of an arc welding torch with a tungsten electrode surrounded by a metal tube, through which a soft flow of helium gas would flow. The helium made a small bubble of inert gas around the arc, keeping out the oxygen in the atmosphere. This made the welding of magnesium possible and was the beginning of the Heliarc welding process which was patented in Russ' name and assigned to Northrop, who in turn assigned it to Linde Air Products for marketing. It has since become a part of the industry, with many applications.

Russ talked me into leaving North American and coming back to Northrop as part of a new Experimental Department with him as head and the promise of the second shift for me to head, when we got busy enough to start one. At first, Russ, myself, and another friend named Fortune Masdeo were the only welders who knew how to operate this new torch and we proceeded to train many others. We built an entire flying wing pursuit plane of magnesium, among other things. We also started on the big project of the huge flying wing bomber, preceded by several one third size flying models of same. Many years later, Ruth and I found one of these models in an aircraft museum at Ontario Airport.

We were well into War II by now and Ruth and I and Lorraine were living in a new home that we had purchased in Inglewood on 80th St. Johnsons helped us greatly with this and it was greatly appreciated at that time of low wages. I went on to become Foreman of the second shift in the Experimental dep't. and later a new building was built at the east end of the flying field, for the Experimental dep't. and I was put in charge of the welding dep't. Russ was transferred to the Engineering dep't. and did a lot of work with trying to develop gas turbine blades that could stand the strain of the heat, etc.

We fortunately had purchased a nearly new 41 Dodge sedan with new tires, just as we got into the war, and we drove that car until well after the war was over and new cars were available again. I was able to get tires when needed and gas with ration stamps, but never enough. Due to the fact that I was in an essential industry, I was locked in and the military did not want me, which was fine with me. We had a bike which I sometimes rode to work and sometimes Ruth rode the bike to get groceries. With all the rationing, we didn't live very high.

We used to drive down to Long Beach on Sundays to visit our parents and have dinner. My brother George was in the Navy all during this time and mostly stationed at Camp Pendleton as a Medical Corpsman. Never did have to go overseas.

During this time we bought a bay mare named Maggie who was half thoroughbred and half Arabian and later a Black mare named Music at Night who was three fourths American Saddle breed. We rode them for many years and stabled them at a barn on Century Blvd. across from the Hollywood Race Track.

(9)

The War finally ran it's course and when the end finally came there was a great cut-back in all the aircraft building, so many were laid off. About this time I had been relieved of my duties as Foreman of the Experimental Welding Dep't. due to differences of opinion with my Superintendent, Bob Catlin, and I transferred back to the regular welding Dep't. There was enough work to keep us going so I was not laid off, but I was getting pretty tired of the factory work and we started looking around at orange groves.

When Ruth's father saw how we were thinking, he suggested that we might like to move back to the farms in Kansas and try that line of work. After much thinking about it, we decided to try this idea, so I quit at Northrop, we sold our house in Inglewood, and in 1946 we moved to Kansas, staying with Johnson's old friends the Wagners, in Ellinwood for a short time, until we could move in to a house in Great Bend on Zarah Drive.

We shipped the horses on the train and Walter Langhrer unloaded them and took them out to the old home place, at Dartmouth. We started to think about building a house on the farm near the old farmhouse where Clint, Ruth's father, was raised. We got an architect from Sterling, Kansas, named Marion Heter, who had studied with Frank Lloyd Wright, and he drew up plans for us for a small house.

We contracted with a local builder named Joe Dressen to build the house and he got started on it on Apr. 1, 1947. We dug the basement and ran the foundations and basement walls all in one day with two portable cement mixers. We had had a well drilled and I pumped all the water for all that concrete with a hand powered pitcher pump. Right after this, Joe Dressen went to the hospital with a heart attach and died.

The men who had been working for him didn't want to work for Mrs. Dressen so I hired them for daily wages of \$1.00 per hour and we went ahead and built the house. I read the blue-prints as none of them had experience with this. I helped along with all the work, carpentering, electrical, plumbing and served as plasterer's helper for a week when Bert Fradd did all the walls and ceilings. I mixed all the plaster in a box with a big hoe, as it used to be done, and carried it in to the house in a big hod that weighed 48 lbs. empty.

There were no stone masons in the area, so I borrowed some tools from a man who had used them working for the old WPA of the depression days, and covered the front of the house with limestone and built a large round chimney and fireplace.

I did all the exterior painting, also, and we finally moved in around Christmas time of the same year. We ended up living in that house for 21 years. We gradually added landscaping, driveway, sidewalks and a 20 ft. by 30 ft. concrete block horse barn which I built entirely, with a little help from our daughter, Lorraine, on the mortar mixing.

(10)

Lorraine attended the little country school where Mr. Johnson and his brothers and sisters had attended. I was on the school board for a while until it was consolidated with a nearby, larger district.

We also had an old fashioned country telephone line belonging to the subscribers that I served as President of the Board, which meant that I helped repair broken lines, take around new batteries, etc. We were finally taken over by the Ellinwood telephone company when dial systems were installed.

During all this period, I helped bale hay, plough, cut wheat, build fences, tear down old buildings, build new ones and any thing else that needed to be done. For four years we tried raising mink and got to know this business fairly well, but finally realized that one had to operate big to make any money at it. From time to time we raised a pig or calf for our own meat and for a few years we had a milk cow, which I had to learn to milk. This, with the horses to care for, too, kept us pretty well tied down, so we didn't go any place for several years.

While we were in Kansas, my father died, and later Mother died after a long illness. My sister, Agnes, also died, leaving five children for her husband, Don Lohr, to look after. He finally remarried a lady named Peggy, who helped to finish raising the youngsters.

During the long winters, when there was spare time, I took up silver working with an instructor named Orlin Baker and had many enjoyable evenings at the classes, as well as doing quite a bit of work at home. I also got interested in sail boats again, after having done some sailing on Long Beachs Alimetos Bay, when I was younger. I built a Snipe class boat and sailed it on Lake Barton in Kansas and later sold it and built a 22 foot cruising sloop with cabin, galley and head. We sailed it for about ten years on Kanopolis in Kansas and I finally sold it to Louis Becker, a Lutheran minister who used to go sailing with me.

The horses finally got quite old and, after the bay mare slipped on the ice one night and injured herself badly, we decided to put them both to sleep, which was a very hard thing to do, for me, after having them for over twenty years. That was the end of our riding and selling the last boat put an end to our sailing. I miss them both.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson began to get requests to lease the farms for oil in the fifties and they moved back to Great Bend, partly to be nearer us and partly because Clint thought he could make better oil deals. Some drilling was done on some of the farms and quite a number of wells were brought in. Many of these wells went on to produce for a long time and some are still going at this time.

(11)

During these years we made a trip to Florida, down to Key West and a trip to Yellowstone National Park and the Tetons. We also made a few trips to St. Louis where Ruth had both her stapes replaced in her ears. We also drove out to So. California a few times and twice we went to Hawaii, the first time while Lorraine was living there with her husband, Al Smith.

After Johnsons moved back to Great Bend, I did more and more chores and errands for them as they got older and less able to handle things. Finally Clint got more ill and weaker and finally died. We had been thinking some about moving back out to the West Coast for some time and decided to do so after Clints estate was settled.

We sold our house on the farm and Florences house in Great Bend and in the spring of 1968 we moved out to a house in Indian Wells, Calif. Florence lived with us for a while and then we bought her a Sandpiper condominium near-by where she lived until she died. We looked after her all this time and saw to it that she always had someone staying with her.

During our time in Indian Wells, I played quite a bit of golf, did jewelry and lapidary work and took some lessons in sculpture, doing several pieces in alabaster and marble.

In 1974 we bought a condominium in Laguna Niguel, near the beach and started spending summers there to avoid the heat in the desert.

This brings us up to the present writing on the 31st day of Oct, 1982 when I am 72 years of age and we are residing in a house which we bought new here in Indian Wells in 1979.

Charles Duncan, Jr., married **Ruth Lorraine Johnson**, daughter of DeWitt Clinton Johnson and Florence Mildred Lash, on 12 Jun 1937 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California. Ruth was born on 18 Dec 1912 in Ellinwood, Barton, Kansas, USA. She died on 27 Sep 2010 in Irvine, Orange, California, USA. She was buried on 2 Oct 2010 in Ellinwood, Barton, Kansas, USA. *For more information about Ruth's family, see the Johnson section in another volume.*



Ruth Lorraine Johnson's birth certificate shows her birth in Ellinwood, Lakin Township, Barton County, Kansas, at 12:10 a.m. on 18 Dec 1912. Her birth was legitimate. Her parents are Dewitt Clinton Johnson, 39, bank cashier, born in Clinton, Illinois. Her mother's maiden name is Florence Lash, 30, housewife, born in Rome, Iowa. Both lived in Ellinwood. The attending physician was G. O. Speirs, M.D., of Ellinwood. The certificate was filed on 20 Dec 1912. Wm. Steckel was the Registrar.

The Thursday 19 Dec 1912 *Ellinwood Leader* includes this article about Ruth's birth, "It's "Daddy" Johnson now if you please, a fine little daughter being born to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson on Wednesday morning of this week. Mrs. Johnson and the little miss are getting along nicely, and Clint is doing the honors of the occasion with the exuberant joyousness of a six year old boy with his first pair of brass toed boots." Another article states, "Mrs. Amos Johnson is here from Great Bend today visiting her son Clint and family."

Ruth's father, D. C. Johnson, Ellinwood, Kansas, received a letter of 1 Jan 1913 from a friend D. F. Radfield of Tucumcari, New Mexico, congratulating him on the birth of his daughter. Mr. Radfield also thanked him for the lodge receipts.

The West Family Bible contains an entry written by Florence Johnson, nee Lash, showing Ruth Johnson's birth on 18 Dec 1912. She was the only daughter of DeWitt Clinton Johnson and Florence Lash who married on 6 Sep 1904.

Ruth Lorraine Johnson said she was born at her parents' home, 407 N. Main, Ellinwood, Kansas. She was their only child. Her parents lived someplace else in Ellinwood before moving to their Main St. house.

The Better Babies Standard Score Card shows Ruth Johnson weighed 5 1/2 pounds at birth and she was her mother's first child. Her father is D. C. Johnson, a banker, age 42, when Ruth was 32 months old. Ruth's mother's maiden name is Florence Lash and she was a housekeeper and age 33 at that time. Both parents were Americans. Ruth's birth was registered at Great Bend, Kansas.

Ruth's baby book includes an undated, unnamed newspaper clipping, "Mrs. Amos Johnson went down to Ellinwood yesterday to see a new 10 pound grand-son, born December 17th, to Mr. and Mrs. Clint Johnson." [Note the errors as Ruth was a 5 1/2 pound girl born on 18 Dec.]

*****Notes from discussions with my mother in 1978-2006*****

When she was 2, 3, or 4 years old, Ruth developed rickets and her parents took her to Creede, Colorado, for a few weeks in the summer so that she could get the needed sunshine to correct this problem. Although Kansas had plenty of sunshine, it was considered too hot, humid, windy and buggy to be outside much. Years later Ruth and her parents stayed again as guests at a Colorado cabin owned by their friends, the Iserns of Ellinwood. Ruth was crazy about the burros in a camp there. She used to ride them. Ruth's mother thought the burros were cute, but Ruth's father had the average farmers' attitude toward animals. Once when there were one or two others on a burro, a child whacked the burro in the rear and since Ruth was on the end, she fell off unhurt. Once, Ruth and her parents visited her father's brother, Charles, on his farm near Marshall or Enid, Oklahoma.

Ruth Lorraine Johnson BIRTH Certificate, Ellinwood, Kansas, 1912

PLACE OF BIRTH.		STATE OF KANSAS. 5 711	
County of <u>Barton</u>		STATE BOARD OF HEALTH-DIV. OF VITAL STATISTICS.	
Township of <u>Lakin</u>		STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH.	
City of <u>Ellinwood</u> No. _____		Registered No. <u>54</u> street.	
FULL NAME OF CHILD <u>Ruth Lorraine Johnson</u>		(If child is not yet named, make supplemental report, as directed.)	
Sex of Child <u>Female</u>	Twin, triplet, or other? <u>✓</u>	Number in order of birth _____	Legitimate. <u>Yes</u>
(To be answered only in event of plural births)		Date of birth <u>Dec</u> <u>18</u> 191 <u>2</u>	
(Month) (Day) (Year)			
FATHER.		MOTHER.	
Full Name <u>Dwight Clinton Johnson</u>		Maiden Name <u>Florance Cook</u>	
Residence <u>Ellinwood Kansas</u>		Residence <u>Ellinwood Ks.</u>	
Color <u>white</u>	Age at last birthday <u>37</u> (Years.)	Color <u>white</u>	Age at last birthday <u>30</u> (Years.)
Birthplace <u>Clinton, Ill.</u>		Birthplace <u>Rome, Iowa</u>	
Occupation <u>Bank Cashier</u>		Occupation <u>Housewife</u>	
Number of children born to this mother, including present birth <u>one</u>		Number of children of this mother now living <u>one</u>	
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE.			
I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, who was <u>born alive</u> at <u>12:10 A.M.</u> on the date above stated.			
(Born alive or stillborn)			
* When there was no attending physician or midwife, then the father, householder, etc., should make this return. A stillborn child is one that neither breathes nor shows other evidence of life after birth.		(Signature) <u>G. G. Harris M.D.</u>	
Given name added from supplemental report _____ 191 <u>2</u>		(Physician or midwife)	
Registrar.		Address <u>Ellinwood Ks.</u>	
		Filed <u>20th Dec 1912</u> <u>Wm. Stuckel</u> Registrar.	



This is a true and correct copy of the official record on file in the Office of Vital Statistics, Topeka, Kansas, certified on the date stamped below.

2012 DEC 13 AM 08:49

Elizabeth W. Saadi

Elizabeth W. Saadi, Ph.D.
State Registrar
Office of Vital Statistics
Department of Health & Environment

A05795849

It is in violation of KSA 65-2422d(g) to "prepare or issue any certificate which purports to be an original, certified copy or copy of a certificate of birth, death or fetal death, except as authorized in this act or rules and regulations adopted under this act."

CERTIFIED COPIES WILL BE PRODUCED ON MULTI-COLOR SECURITY PAPER.

Ruth Lorraine Johnson (1912-2010)



Ruth at 5 months, 14 lbs



Ruth at 1 year, 16 and half pounds



**Ruth's Aunts Pearl
(seated in chair) and
Clara Johnson with
Ruth in front at their
home at
1814 Broadway,
Great Bend,
Kansas, 1914**



**D. C. and Florence Johnson home at 407 N. Main St., Ellinwood, Kansas,
birthplace of their daughter, Ruth Johnson. Photo taken May 1982**



**Gene and Fernie Wagner's home next-door to the
Johnson's at 411 N. Main where their daughter
Leota was born six months after Ruth. The two girls
became lifelong friends.**



**Ruth in front of the Johnson house.
Photo taken May 1988**



**Ruth with
her father,
D. C. Johnson,
about 1913**



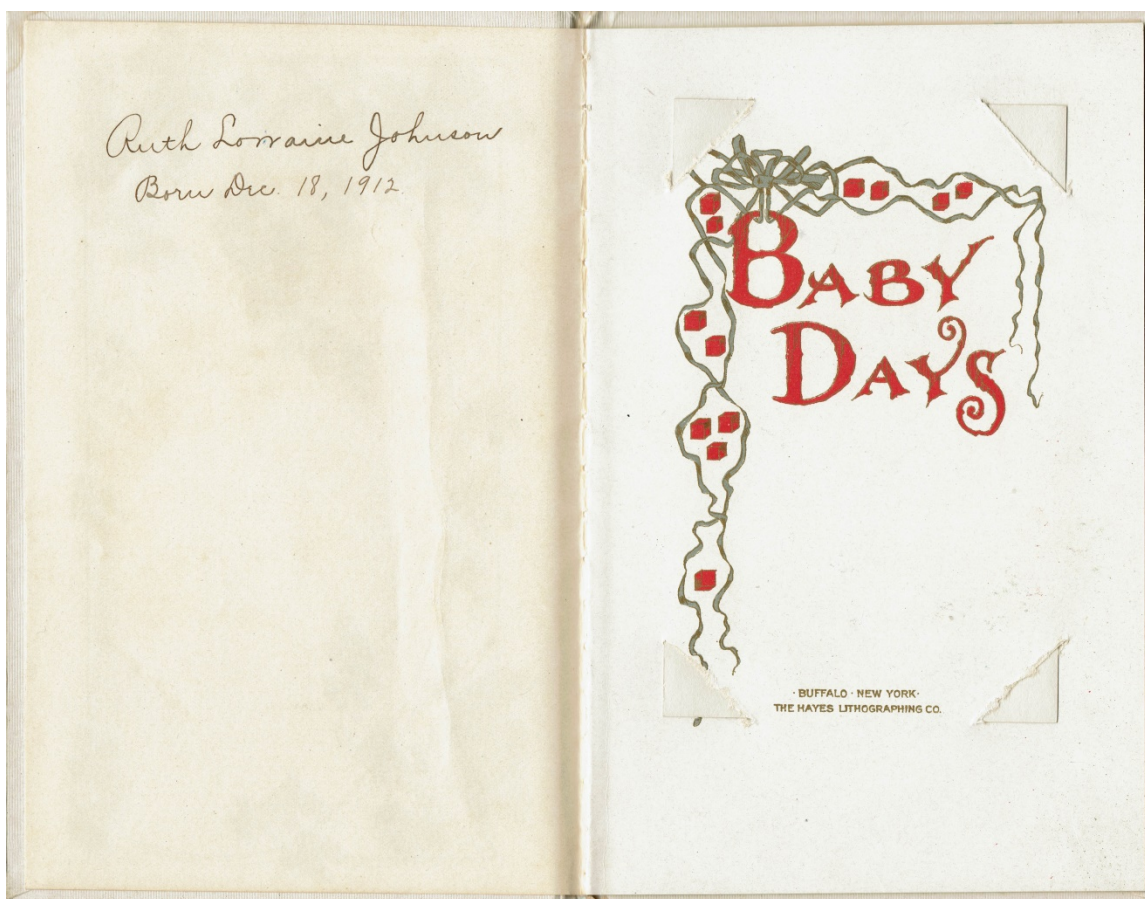
**Below: Ruth, 18 months, taken by the Fults
Studio in Colorado Springs, Colorado.**



**Ruth, 18 months old, in Colorado Springs. Her parents
took her there to help her recover from rickets.**



Ruth Lorraine Johnson baby book, born 1912, p. 1





Ruth Lorraine Johnson baby book, born 1912, p. 3

Lock of Hair

Baby's First Ride

Baby took her second ride

with Helen Mc. Linnis, Jan. 25, 1913

and had pictures taken. Took her first automobile ride Apr. 14 in Papa's new Studebaker with Helen Elizabeth and both cried all the time.

Events in Baby's Life

Baby's Health

Good - Has very strong from the first.

Baby's Playmates

Baby's Pets

Baby's Bright Sayings

Baby's Writings

Mrs. Amos Johnson went down to Ellinwood yesterday to see a new 10 pound grand-son, born December 17th, to Mr. and Mrs. Clint Johnson.

It's "Daddy" Johnson now if you please, a fine little daughter being born to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson Wednesday morning of this week. Mrs. Johnson and the little miss are getting along nicely, and Clint is doing the honors of the occasion with the exuberant joyousness of a six year old boy with his first pair of brass toed boots.

Ruth Johnson's Better Babies Score Card

Test IV—Oral and Dental Examination

possible this examination should be made by a dentist.
leaflet "Suggestions to Physicians."

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
JTH. Habitually held open (10).....gums un- thy, or abnormality (5).....tongue coated (5) ruding (5).....hard palate (high arch or other mity) (10).....uncleanliness (5).....deformity ed by thumb-sucking (5)..... poor color (5).....fissures (5).....	45	10
TH. Number of teeth.....delayed teething (5) Prolonged retention of deciduous teeth (10) numery teeth (5)..... olorations (5).....decayed teeth (5) (10) ular teeth (10).....notches or ridges (5) oclusion (10).....	15	30
Maximum total score.....	115	

Actual total score in Test IV 115

Examiner J.H.H.

Dentition Table

er central incisors	at 7th mo.-Interval 2 to 3 mo.
er central and lateral incisors at 9th mo.-Interval 2 mo.	
er lateral incisors	at 12th mo.-Interval 2 mo.
t molars	at 14th mo.-Interval 2 to 5 mo.
ids	at 18th mo.-Interval 3 to 5 mo.
nd molars	at 26th mo.-Interval 3 to 5 mo.

Test V—Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat

possible this examination should be made by a specialist.

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
ES. Abnormalities of size (5).....position (5) tion of conjunctiva (5).....discharge (5) s eyes (5) (10).....lids (5).....	35	10
ES. Abnormalities of size (5).....shape (5) SE. Obstruction in breathing with mouth closed discharge (5).....offensive breath (5).....	20	20
ROAT. Enlarged or diseased tonsils (10) oids (10).....	20	20
Maximum total score.....	85	

Actual total score in Test V 85

Examiner J.H.H.

Maximum Total Score in all Five Tests...1000

Total Number Points Actually Scored in all

Five Tests.....920

ascertain actual score add together number of points
scored in all five tests. To reduce score to per-
centage place decimal point before last figure.

IMPORTANT NOTE

THIS score card will give satisfactory results only when used in connection with the explanatory literature which can be secured from the Better Babies Bureau of the WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York City. This literature comprises the following:

SUGGESTIONS TO PHYSICIANS: a leaflet explaining in medical terms the various tests on the score card, for use of physicians making tests at Better Babies Contests.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCORING: a leaflet giving detailed explanation of the score card and the method of computing scores, for the benefit of scoring committees.

HOW TO HOLD A BETTER BABIES CONTEST: an illustrated booklet with full instructions for planning and conducting a Better Babies Contest; the organization of committees, the appointment of officials, the arrangement and equipment of examination rooms, the division and awarding of prizes, and the educational features or exhibits to be held in connection with the contest.

HINTS TO MOTHERS Who Want Better Babies: an eight-page folder of practical information which will assist mothers in the care of their little children according to modern methods. Among the topics discussed are breast-feeding, bottle-feeding, weaning, diet for children up to three years of age, clothing, exercise, bathing and general health.

CAUTION

The material in this score card is protected by copyright for the purpose of preventing its improper use without the explanatory literature named above. Score cards and literature are not for sale, because the work for Better Babies is not a commercial undertaking but an educational movement, conducted in the interest of mothers and babies. The new literature, as described above, is distributed freely by the Better Babies Bureau of the WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION for use at Better Babies Contests, Parent-Teachers' Conferences, State Board of Health Conferences and by physicians in dispensaries and private practice.

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Better Babies Standard Score Card



Entry No. 815 Division B
 Score..... Age in Months 32
 Rural..... City.....
 Male..... Female Yes
 Name Ruth Johnson
 City and State Albany, N.Y.
 Street and Number.....
 Weight at birth 5.2 lbs.
 Strong or weak at birth Strong
 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th child 1st
 Breast-fed..... No. months.....
 { Mixed-fed (bottle and breast).
 { No. months.....
 { Bottle-fed Yes How many months 20
 { What foods Corn meal, milk, sugar
 Amount of milk in each feeding.....
 Number of feedings now in 24 hours.....
 Kind of food at present.....
 Sleeps alone.....
 If not, with whom.....
 Sleeps in open air.....
 Windows open Yes How many 2
 Father's name W.C. Johnson
 Age 42 Nationality American
 Occupation Sanitary
 Mother's maiden name Shapiro, Jack
 Age 33 Nationality American
 Occupation Sanitary
 Has birth been registered Yes
 Where Albany, N.Y.
 Contest held at.....
 By.....
 Date.....

ISSUED BY THE
BETTER BABIES BUREAU
 WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION
 381 Fourth Avenue, New York
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See important note on the last page of the card

Test I—Mental and Developmental

These tests are based on the F. Kuhlmann revision of the test Simon System.

The examiner should mark "x" after each test in which a child fails to qualify. Examiners do not compute any these tests. This work is done by the Scoring Committee.

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
MONTHS. Sits alone (40).....can balance (40).....hears (looks in direction of unexpected (40).....eyes follow bright object (40)..... hes for bright object (20).....will grasp and hold (0).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
ELVE MONTHS. Stands (momentarily un- suped) (40).....walks with support (40).....can re- few syllables—da, ma, bye (40).....plays with (40).....knows mother (will cling to her) (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
HTEN MONTHS. Stands and walks without port (40).....says few words: mama, baby, gointerested in surroundings (40).....imitates ple movements (clapping of hands, etc.) (40)..... its to common animals in picture-book (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
O YEARS. Runs (40).....imitates movements a hands on head, above head, makes circle with ds) (40).....obeys simple commands (hand me pencil; throw me the ball; sit down here) (40)can recognize simple objects in picture (man, ball) (40).....will use paper and pencil (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
O AND ONE-HALF YEARS. Talks in short ences (40).....can point to eyes, ears, nose (40)knows names of members of family (40).....will paper and pencil and will try to copy a circle (40)can recognize self in mirror (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
REE YEARS. Talks distinctly (40).....can re- sentences of six simple words (40).....can repeat o three numerals (40).....recognizes his full nametries to describe a picture showing common ets (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
UR YEARS. Knows sex (40).....names simple cts (match, key, penny, ring, closed knife) (40)compares two sticks (can select the longer) (40)compares two horizontal lines (can select the ger) (40).....can discriminate forms, round, are, etc.) (40).....	200	200

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
E YEARS. Can count four pennies (40).....can y a square or circle (roughly) (40).....compares weights (identical in appearance, one several es heavier than the other) (40).....can put to- ver visiting card cut diagonally (40).....can repeat ell a short story (40).....	200	200

Maximum total.....200

Actual total score in Test I 200

Examiner J.H.H.

Test II—Measurements

The examiner should insert actual measurements only.

The Scoring Committee will compute the score as per leaflet, "Special Instructions for Scoring."

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
Height.....In. <u>34 1/2</u>	20	
Weight.....Lbs. <u>25 1/2</u>	20	20
Circumference of head.....In. <u>17 1/4</u>	15	15
Circumference of chest at nipple line.....In. <u>17 1/4</u>	15	10
Circumference of abdomen at umbilical line, taken with child standing.....In. <u>17 1/4</u>	10	10
Diameter of chest ant-posterior, taken with calipers at level of nipple line in mid-sternal line.....In. <u>5 3/4</u>	5	5
Lateral diameter of chest taken with cal- ipers at level of nipple line in mid- axillary line.....In. <u>4 3/4</u>	5	5
Length of arm from tip of acromion proc- ess to tip of middle finger.....In. <u>13 1/2</u>	5	5
Length of leg from greater trochanter to the sole of the foot.....In. <u>15 1/2</u>	5	5
Maximum Total.....	100	58
Actual total score in Test II <u>48</u>		

NOTE: Physicians have asked that the following measurements be made for statistical purposes, but they do not score for or against the baby.

Sitting height, to be taken with the baby seated on the table; measurements to be made from top of table to top of baby's head 19 1/2 In.
 Lateral diameter of head (calipers above the ears) 5 In.
 Antero-posterior diameter of head (glabella to occipital protuberance) 6 1/2 In.

Examiner J.H.H.

Table of Standards

IMPORTANT: To score babies whose ages fall between standards given below, see "Instructions for Scoring."

Age in months	Height	Weight	Circumference of head	Circumference of chest	Circumference of abdomen	Diameter of chest ant-posterior	Diameter of chest lateral	Length of arm	Length of leg
6	26 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	16 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	10	11
9	27 1/2	20	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	4 3/4	5 3/4	10 1/2	12 1/2
12	29 1/2	22	18 1/2	18 1/2	18	4 3/4	5 3/4	12	12 1/2
16	31	23	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	5	6	12 1/2	13
20	32	24 1/2	19	19	18 1/2	5	6	13 1/2	14 1/2
24	33 1/2	27 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	19	5	6 1/2	13 1/2	15 1/2
28	34	28 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	5	6 1/2	14	16
32	35 1/2	30	19 1/2	19 1/2	19 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	14 1/2	16 1/2
36	37	33 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20	5 1/2	6 1/2	15 1/2	17 1/2
40	38	34	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	15 1/2	18
44	39	36	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	5 1/2	7	16 1/2	19
48	40	38	20 1/2	21	21	5 1/2	7	16 1/2	19
52	41	40	20 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	5 1/2	7 1/2	17	19 1/2
56	42	42 1/2	20 1/2	22	22	5 1/2	7 1/2	17	20
60	42 1/2	43	20 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	5 1/2	7 1/2	17 1/2	20 1/2

Test III—Physical Examination

The examiner marks "x" for each defect as listed in this test. Where no defect is found, leave the space blank. The Scoring Committee will figure the score from the penalties marked "x."

	Maximum Score	No. Points Deducted for Defects
1. HEAD. Abnormally small (5).....abnormally large (5).....asymmetrical (5).....Box shaped (5).....	20	
2. HAIR. Scanty (5).....brittle (5).....bald spots (5).....	15	
3. SCALP. Poor condition (5).....	5	
4. FONTANEL. Delayed closure (should be closed at 18th month) (10).....abnormally large (5).....	15	
5. FACE. Features irregular (10).....chin receding or projecting (10).....	20	
6. NECK. Enlarged glands (consider small, palpable glands not abnormal) (10).....scars of glands (10).....	20	
7. CHEST. Inspection: Poor development (10).....asymmetrical (10).....abnormal shape (pigeon breast, barrel or funnel shaped) (10).....ribs, beading (10).....With stethoscope: Heart irregular (10).....murmurs (10).....lungs diminished or bronchial breathing, rales (10).....	70	
8. BACK. Spine: Curvature lateral (10).....curvature antero-posterior (10).....Scapulae: Winged (5) (10).....	30	
9. ABDOMEN. Abnormal distention (normal abdomen is protuberant in infancy) (10).....enlarged spleen (10).....enlarged liver (10).....hernia at navel (10).....hernia at groin (10).....	50	
10. ARMS, HANDS and FINGERS. Enlarged epiphyses (10).....asymmetrical (5).....clubbing of fingers (10).....	25	
11. NAILS. Defects (5).....discolored (5).....	5	0
12. GENITALIA. Male: Adherent prepuce (5).....inflammation (5).....testicles, non-descended (above ring) (5).....scrotum abnormalities (5).....Female: Congenital defects (10).....discharge (5).....inflammation (5).....	20	
13. POSTURE and GAIT. Incorrect posture (round shoulders, head held forward) (10).....gait (waddling or spastic) (10).....pigeon toes (5).....	25	
14. LEGS and FEET. Asymmetrical (10).....knock-kneed (10).....bow-legged (10).....curvature of thigh bone (10).....enlarged epiphyses (10).....flat or weak feet (10).....toe nail defects (5).....	65	
15. SKIN. Pallor (5).....skin rough (5).....blotches (5).....hairy (5).....eruptions (10).....	30	
16. NUTRITION. Abnormally thin (10).....abnormally fat (10).....	20	
17. MUSCLES and NERVES. Flabbiness of muscles (10).....muscular inco-ordination (10).....nervous instability (twitching, extreme nervousness) (10).....	30	10
18. DEPORTMENT DURING EXAMINATION. Bad tempered, unmanageable or lacking in self control (5).....	10	10
19. DEFECTS or EVIDENCES OF DISEASE NOT LISTED.....	500	
Maximum total.....	500	26
Actual total score in Test III <u>470</u>		

Examiner.....

Ruth Lorraine Johnson



**Ruth
on left**



**Ruth,
Kansas,
about 1914**

**Ruth
Johnson,
Ellinwood,
Kansas,
about 1915**



Ruth on left



Ruth Lorraine Johnson



Ruth Johnson
2 years and 9 months
taken in Hutchinson, Kansas



Ruth in Indian costume



Ruth maybe 5 years old

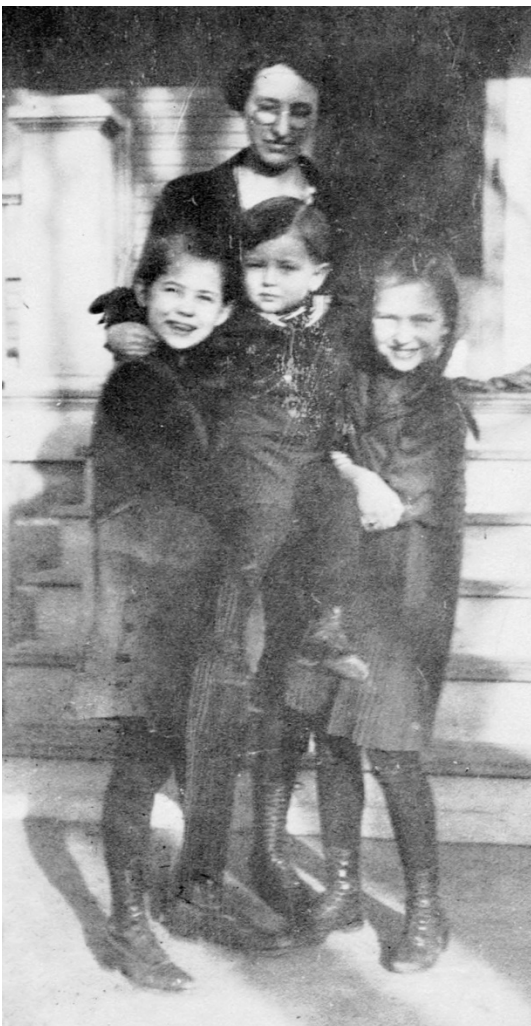




Leota Wagner (left), next-door neighbor and lifelong friend to Ruth Johnson (right), Ellinwood, Kansas



Leota Wagner, Ellinwood, Kansas



Fernie Wagner, Leota's mother, with young Ruth (left) and Leota (right) holding Daryl Wagner, Leota's brother, in front of the Wagner's house in Ellinwood, Kansas, about 1920

Daryl Wagner





Ruth playing in the snow in Ellinwood, Kansas

Ruth with a cat



Ruth on her bike with a dog in the basket



Spring Recital

By Pupils of

Miss Musil

Assisted by

Miss Amy Townsend

Mrs. Fred Wolf

At the home of Mrs. Fred Wolf
Tuesday Evening, June Twenty-ninth,
Nineteen Hundred Twenty

**Ruth Johnson's spring recital
with her mother as an
accompanist, Ellinwood, 1920**

Programme

Violin Trio, Hope March.....Papini
Ronald Wagner, Charles Hirsch,
Frederick Stephan

Duet, The Rainbow Fairy.....Krogmann
Yvonne Anderson, Lois Anderson

Piano, Cradle SongGaynor
Margaret Louise Wolf

Violin, (a) Air Varie VDancila
(b) BerceuseBernard
Ronald Wagner

Voice, My Wild Rose SleepethDeppen
Heart of an HourDeppen
Katherine Heim

Duet, The Little Prince.....Krogmann
Leota Wagner, Ruth Johnson

Piano, (a) The PicnicSpencer
Florence Zecha
(b) Off to the CircusSawyer
Roberta Zecha
(c) Watching the Ball Game.....Sawyer
Mary Zecha

Violin and Piano, Dance of the Dewdrop.....Curg
Frank Koelsch, Celeste Koelsch

Song, Monkey ManCook
Ruth Johnson

Dance, Valse Durand
Amy Townsend

Piano, Santa Clause GuardsKrogmann
Ruth Koch

Organ, TannhauserWagner
Mrs. Fred Wolf
Miss Musil at the piano

Accompanists

Mrs. D. C. Johnson
Mrs. Fred Wolf



Miss Oma Nelson's 3rd grade Ellinwood class photo, about 1920-21

Front Row, L. to R.: Sophie Schneider, unknown, Ruth Johnson, Esther Sieker, Margie Schmidt, Martha Schmidt, unknown, Laura Knop, Leota Wagner.
2nd Row, L. to R.: Karl Nuss, Milton Mohn, unknown boy, Wesley Gallyardt, Raymond Thompson, Dorothy Davis, Viola Gallyardt.
3rd Row, L. to R.: Milton Lanterman, Jack Mellis, Bert surname unknown.
4th Row, L. to R.: Alex Gallyardt, Jimmy Williams, Naomi surname unknown, unknown, unknown, Elizabeth Herold



Miss Nelson's 5th grade Ellinwood class photo, 16 May 1923

Elizabeth Herold, Carl Nuss, Laura Knop, Wesley Galyardt, unknown, Leonard Thompson, Milton Lanterman, Martha Schmidt, Leota Wagner, Dorothy Davis, Ruth Johnson, Margie Schmidt, Naomi Troyer, David Herbel, unknown, Milton Mohn.

Second Annual
Spring Recital

By the Students of
Miss Musil

At the Home of Mrs. Fred Wolf

Tuesday Evening, June Seventh,
Nineteen Hundred Twenty-one
Eight O'clock

**Ruth Johnson's spring recital,
Ellinwood, 1921**

Programme

Violin Symphony:

- (a) Star Spangled Banner.....Arr. by Saenger
- (b) Marche Henkel
- (c) Apple Blossoms Roberts

Ronald Wagner, Charles Hirsch, Frederick Stephan,
Howard Mohn, Valentine Senko, Francis Senko.

Piano—Raindrops Kern
Ruth Johnson.

Duet—Mignonette Bilbro
Leota Wagner, Ulanda Arensdorf.

Violin—Concerto Op. 12 Seitz
(a) Adagio.
Allegro.
(b) Souvenir Drdla
Ronald Wagner.

Piano—Song of the Brooklet.....Martinez
Margaret Wolf.

Voice—A Memory Park
Doris Andreae.

Trio—The Camp of Glory.....Holst
Florence Zecha, Roberta Zecha, Mary Zecha.

Violin—Madrigale Simonetti
Charles Hirsch.

Two Pianos—The Flatterer.....Chaminade
Louis Chalfant, Cora Chalfant

Piano—Cinderella Kuhn
Celeste Koelsch.

Duet—Morning Prayer Streabbog
Ruth Koch, Christine Kimpler.

Two Pianos (eight hands)—Diana.....Halst
Doris Stephan, Selma Herold, Lilly Mohn,
Sophia Lanterman

Ashers

Mamie Risse
Marie Kimpler.

Lois Davis
Clara Stroh.

Ruth Johnson's spring recital with her mother as an accompanist, Ellinwood, 1922

<p style="text-align: center;">Accompanists</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mrs. Fred Wolf and Mrs. F. C. Johnson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">&</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ushers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pearl Andreae, Doris Andreae and Lily Mohn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Third Annual</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spring Recital</p> <p style="text-align: center;">by the Students of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Miss Musil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">at the home of Mrs. Fred Wolf</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday Evening, June twentieth</p> <p style="text-align: center;">nineteen hundred and twenty-two</p> <p style="text-align: center;">at eight o'clock</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">&</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Piano</p> <p>"Around the Maypole" Ransden Leta Wagner</p> <p>"Dance Petite" Thompson Ruth Johnson</p> <p>"Story at Twilight" Blake Ulanda Arensdorf</p> <p>"Wild Rose" Streablog Margaret Berschiedt</p> <p>"Cello Player" McIntyre Lydia Panning</p> <p>"The Carnaval" Richards Margaret Louise Wolf</p> <p>"Curious Story" Heller Celeste Koelsch</p> <p>"Valse Caprice" Rathbun Doris Krause Lois Davis</p> <p>"The Coquetting Meadowlark" Loepke Ruth Koch</p> <p>"Song of the Brook" Quigley Louise Chalfant</p> <p>"Frolic of the Elves" Steadman Clara Stroh</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">&</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Voice</p> <p>"Rain" Curran Doris Andreae</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Violin</p> <p>"Adoration" Bawski Charles Hirsch</p> <p>"Carita" Atherton Frederick Stephan</p> <p>"Wiegenlied" Hauser Valentine Senko Francis Senko</p> <p>"Berceuse" Renard Howard Mohn</p> <p>(a) "Le Carneval de Venice" Dancla (b) "Meditation"—Thais Massenet Ronald Wagner</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spring Dance</p> <p>"Valse Poupee" Pouldini Ellen Terese Robinson</p> <p>Margaret Louise Wolf, Lydia Panning, Ulanda Arensdorf Leta Wagner, Ruth Johnson, Celeste Koelsch</p>
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Photo by Postcard Publishing - 1922

St. John, Ellinwood - Nov. 16-1922

Grade School, Ellinwood, Kansas, 16 Oct 1922.

Center row, 8th thru 5th from right: Margie Schmidt, Martha Schmidt, Ruth Johnson, Leota Wagner. Teachers were Mr. Juny, 6th grade; Miss Nelson, 4th & 5th grade; Johanna Hirsch, 2nd & 3rd grade; and Miss Fruit, 1st grade.



L. To R.: Margie Schmidt, Martha Schmidt, Ruth Johnson, Leota Wagner

Ruth Johnson in 6th Grade at Ellinwood School, 1923-1924



↑ Ruth

Sixth Grade

Teacher—Johanna Hirsch

Belger, Melvin
 Bremer, Robert
 Davis, Dorothy
 Deutch, Ralph
 Freeman, Mary Lee
 Galyardt, Edwin
 Galyardt, Wesley
 Galyardt, Lydia
 Harold, Elizabeth
 Herbel, David
 Hohl, Elmer
 Johnson, Ruth
 Kalm, Daisy
 Kalm, Elmer
 Knop, Laura
 Lanterman, Milton
 Mellies, Jack
 Mohn, Milton
 Nuss, Carl
 Schmidt, Martha
 Sieker, Esther
 Smith, Elbert
 Thompson, Leonard
 Troyer, Naomi
 Veach, Bessie
 Wagner, Leota

Fifth Grade

Teacher—Oma Nelson

Archer, Vida
 Cobb, Gertrude
 Galyardt, Alex
 Haas, Lucile
 Knop, Doris
 Meyer, Ernest
 Overholt, Donald
 Panning, Elsie
 Polzer, Fritz
 Schneider, Sophia
 Williams, James
 Ziegenbusch, Herman

Fourth Grade

Teacher—Oma Nelson

Bosse, Milton
 Galvardt, Leo
 Koelsch, Philip
 Knop, Florence
 Redmon, Glenda
 Schneider, Eugene
 Soeken, Verna
 Tullis, Ruth

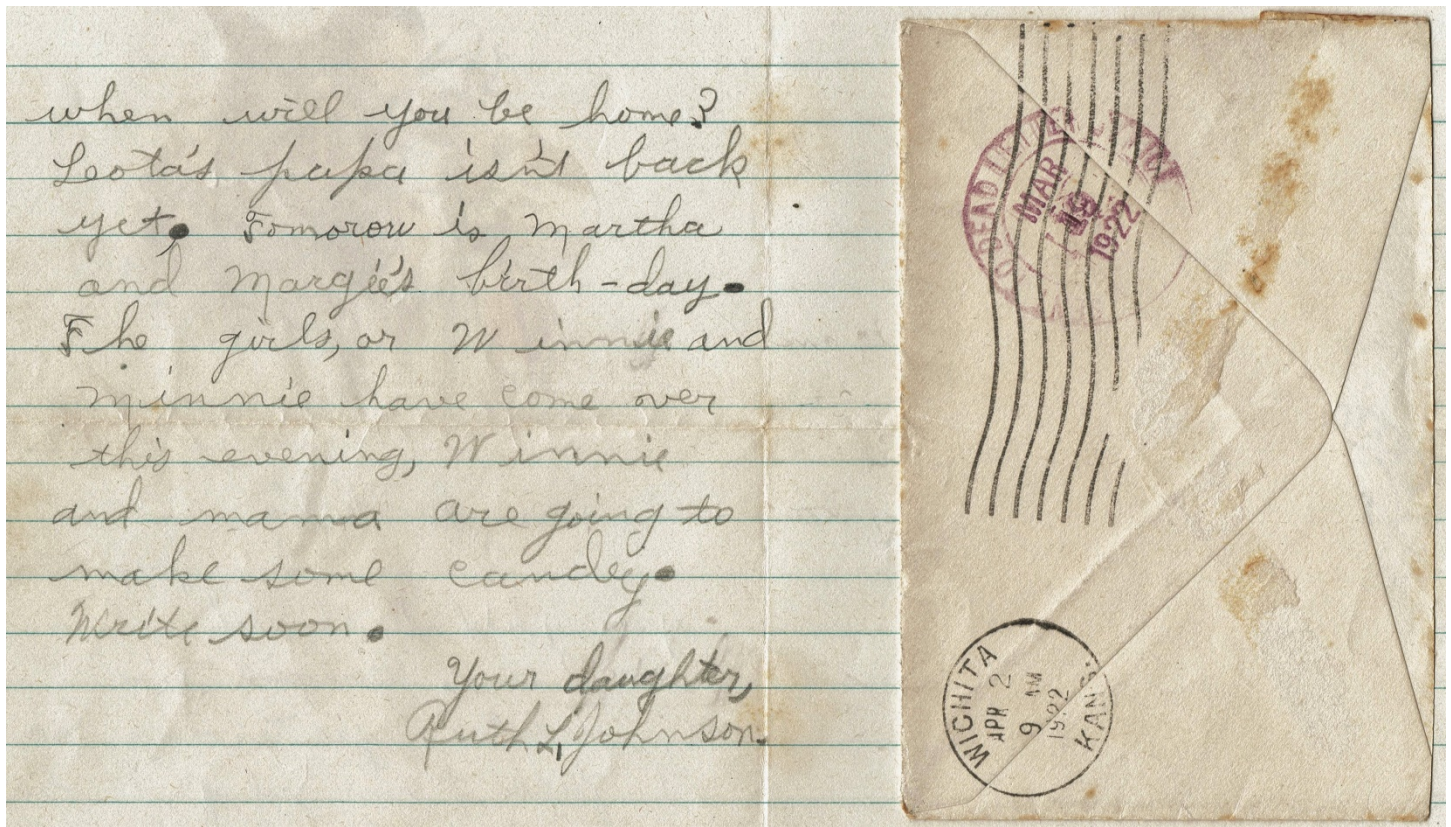
Sample of Ruth Johnson's handwriting as a little girl

(1-1) ^{part} What we had when I was a little
 girl. — by — Ruth Johnson.

Now I will tell you what
 I had when I was a little
 girl & our things that you
 were when I was in college
 raincoats. We had trains and
 all sorts of things. we had
 a house. I forgot to
 tell you that I live in a
 town now I will tell you about
 our house it was white and it
 had an upstairs and a cellar.
 The cellar had three rooms
 in it. Now I am going to tell
 you about who was my play-
 mates. There was one little girl
 named Leota & I got so mad with
 her she would hit me and catch me

2-1 ^{part} and there was another little girl
 and her name was Martha
 and some times when Leota
 would slap me Martha would
 make stop it and she would
 and sometime we would
 be nice. my daddy worked
 in a bank and it was called
 the people state bank. I often
 went down there and he would
 let me do any thing. and my
 mamma was taken out day
 and she said that she was
 going to have tea and daddy
 said tea your foot I don't want
 it. and there was a little
 boy named Milton and he
 was my best friend and we have
 the most fun once we dressed
 up. and I dressed up in
 my mamma's clothes and Milton

14 Mar 1922 letter from Ruth Johnson to her father, D. C. Johnson





**The old Ellinwood School
1888-1925
Photo from Ruth Johnson's
yearbooks**

Ruth as a teen in Ellinwood



Ruth in Ellinwood, about 1926



7th and 8th grade classes at Ellinwood School, 1925-1926

Ruth Johnson, Vice President



Junior High

Top Row: EDNA THOMASON, DOROTHY DAVIS, DOROTHY ZIEGENBUSCH, BESSIE VEACH, RALPH DEUTCH, FRITZ POLZER, MILTON LANTERMAN, LEA HILGENBURG, LYDIA GALLIART, SOPHIA SCHNEIDER, VIOLA CHILDERS. *Second Row:* MARGIE SCHMIDT, LAURA KNOP, NEVA STONE, ELIZABETH HAROLD, RUTH JOHNSON, ELMER GALLIART, JACK BALLANTYNE, LUCILLE HAAS, MILDRED DICK, NADINE ROLPHING, EDITH LEBBIN, ELSIE PANNING, DORIS KNOP. *Third Row:* WALTER ROTH, MILTON MOHN, GERALD SCHMIDT, ESTHER SIEKER, GERTRUDE COBB, MARTHA SCHMIDT, LEOTA WAGNER, WESLEY GALLIART, HERMAN ZIEGENBUSCH, DONALD OVERHOLT, ERNEST MEYER, LEONARD THOMPSON, CARL NUSS.

Junior High Officers

Eighth Grade.

MARJORIE SCHMIDT.....	President
RUTH JOHNSON.....	Vice-President
LAURA KNOP.....	Secretary
MARTHA LEBBIN	Treasurer
NELLIE MATHEWSON.....	Sponsor


Seventh Grade

ERNEST MEYER.....	President
LUCILLE HAAS.....	Vice-President
MILDRED DICK.....	Sect.-Treasurer
JOHANNA HIRSCH.....	Sponsor

**Ruth Johnson
played in the
Barton County
Violin Choir
as a freshman,
Ellinwood, Kansas,
28 Apr 1927**

*Treichman
1st - 1927*

Concert by
Barton County Violin Choir
P. E. TILLEY, *Director*
MRS. T. C. MORRISON, *Accompanist*
Ellinwood, Thursday Evening, April 28, 8:15 P. M.


PROGRAM

I.

Theme from Calif of Bagdad.....Boieldieu
Largo.....Haendel
Scherzo from Op. 78.....Schubert
Hunter's Chorus from "Der Freischutz".....Weber
Allegro from Lucrezia Borgia.....Boieldieu

CHOIR

II.

Violin Duet—Barcarolle, from Tales of Hoffman.....Offenbach
ROBERT ESSMILLER ELDON SCHULTZ

III.

Violin Solo—Lightly Row
EUNICE PERLE TILLEY

IV.

Violin Duet—from Three Little Symphonies.....Dancila
(Theme and Variation Three)
CHESTER SEELEY FRANK ULLOM

V.

Reading—How-Phe-La-Rue-Stakes-Wele-Lost.....Hood
REUBEN MOSES

VI.

Violin Duets—
A Song of India.....Rimsky-Korsakoff
In Springtime.....Greenwald
ELINOR MOSES GENEVIEVE FRYBERGER
DOROTHY MOSES, *Accompanist*

VII.

Violin Solo—Andante Tranquillo—Concerto No. 7.....De Beriot
KATHERINE SAMS

VIII.

Hawaiian Guitar Solos—
One, Two, Three, Four.....Arranged by Kamiki
Hilo March.....Arranged by Marbarger
JOHN DAMM

IX.

Violin Solos—
Serenade in A.....Drdla
Mazurka de Concert.....Musin
MARJORIE MORRISON

X.

The Dawn of Love.....Bendix
MARJORIE MORRISON PEARL PIZINGER
HELEN PIEPER JOSEPHINE PIZINGER
FRANCES SCHREPEL HENRY TRECHTER

Violin Solo—Concerto No. 1.....Seitz
First Movement
HENRY TRECHTER

PERSONNEL OF CHOIR

<p><i>First Violins</i></p> <p>Marjorie Morrison Josephine Pizinger Chester Seeley Henry Trechter Katherine Sams Alice Jantz</p>	<p><i>Second Violins</i></p> <p>Pearl Pizinger Esther Corneilus Ruth Johnson Eleanor Moses Frances Schrepel Helen Pieper Elinor Moses</p>
<p><i>Third Violins</i></p> <p>Frank Ullom Helen Hull Maude Travis Genevieve Fryberger Evelyn Wagaman Ira Unruh Keith Bondurant Eldon Schultz Clarence Brandt Leota Wagner</p>	<p><i>Fourth Violins</i></p> <p>Rosa Tammen Sylvia Witte Mrs. E. C. Grizzell Dorothy Weltmer Mary Esther Tonkin Sanford Rediger C. H. Shell Edward Marchand Edwin Witte Robert Essmiller F. J. Ille</p>

Ruth's sophomore class at Ellinwood, Kansas, 1927



Ruth Johnson in Ellinwood High School Girl's Glee Club, 1927-1928

E. H. S. Girls Glee Club - 1927-1928




Front Row: - Esther Licker, Jeanette Pauline Kimples, Lenta Wagner, Helen Wurm, Violet Schneider, Florence Jicha, Mildred Schneider and Ruth Johnson.
 Second Row: - Lucille Haas, Iwanda Amesday, Vivian Archer, Miss Henrietta Beck, director Mildred Lick, Madeline Ralpin, Margie Schmidt and Margaret Benshoof.
 Third Row: - Eleanor Knapp, Melba Redman, Norma Stone, Dorothy Ziegenhagen, Martha Schmidt, Eleanor Staltz, Sophia Schneider and Dorothy Davis.
 Fourth Row: - Elsie Leach, Lydia Panning, Margaret Wolf, Lorraine McMullen, Jennie Stoneman, Bessie Leach, Dorothy Davis and Mary Staltz.

**Ruth Johnson
played in the
Barton County
Violin Choir,
Ransom, Kansas,
22 Apr 1928**

The director, P. E. Tilley [Perle Edwin Tilley], was Ruth's first violin teacher and taught her until she moved to California. When she and her husband returned, Mr. Tilley taught her daughter Lorraine.

Concert by
Barton County Violin Choir
P. E. TILLEY, *Director*
MRS. T. C. MORRISON, *Accompanist*
Ransom, Kansas, Friday Evening, April 22, 8:15 P. M.


PROGRAM

I.

Theme from Calif of Bagdad.....*Boieldieu*
Largo.....*Haenöel*
Scherzo from Op. 78.....*Schubert*
Hunter's Chorus from "Der Freischütz".....*Weber*
Allegro from Lucrezia Borgia.....*Boieldieu*

CHOIR

II.

Violin Duet—Barcarolle, from Tales of Hoffman.....*Offenbach*
ROBERT ESSMILLER ELDON SCHULTZ

III.

Violin Solo—Lightly Row
EUNICE PERLE TILLEY

IV.

Violin Duet—from Three Little Symphonies.....*Dancía*
(Theme and Variation Three)
CHESTER SEELEY FRANK ULLOM

V.

Reading—How-Phe-La-Rue-Stakes-Weie-Lost.....*Hood*
REUBEN MOSES

VI.

Violin Duets—
A Song of India.....*Rimsky-Korsakoff*
In Springtime.....*Greenwald*
ELINOR MOSES GENEVIEVE FRYBERGER
DOROTHY MOSES, *Accompanist*

VII.

Violin Solo—Andante Tranquillo—Concerto No. 7.....*De Bortot*
KATHERINE SAMS

VIII.

Hawaiian Guitar Solos—
One, Two, Three, Four.....*Arranged by Kamiki*
Hilo March.....*Arranged by Marbarger*
JOHN DAMM

IX.

Violin Solos—
Serenade in A.....*Drda*
Mazurka de Concert.....*Musin*
MARJORIE MORRISON

X.

The Dawn of Love.....*Bendix*
MARJORIE MORRISON PEARL PIZINGER
HELEN PIEPER JOSEPHINE PIZINGER
FRANCES SCHREPEL HENRY TRECHTER

Violin Solo—Concerto No. 1.....*Seitz*
First Movement
HENRY TRECHTER

PERSONNEL OF CHOIR

<i>First Violins</i>	<i>Second Violins</i>
Marjorie Morrison	Pearl Pizinger
Josephine Pizinger	Esther Cornelius
Chester Seeley	Ruth Johnson
Henry Trechter	Eleanor Moses
Katherine Sams	Frances Schrepel
Alice Jantz	Helen Pieper
	Elinor Moses
<i>Third Violins</i>	<i>Fourth Violins</i>
Frank Ullom	Rosa Tammen
Helen Hull	Sylvia Witte
Maude Travis	Mrs. E. C. Grizzell
Genevieve Fryberger	Dorothy Weltmer
Evelyn Wagaman	Mary Esther Tonkin
Ira Unruh	Sanford Rediger
Keith Bondurant	C. H. Shell
Eldon Schultz	Edward Marchand
Clarence Brandt	Edwin Witte
Leota Wagner	Robert Essmiller
	F. J. Ille

Across the Desk

Clair Brings Back Good Old Days

Clair Musil Heaney, visiting here this week, gave us an idea of what the good old days of Ellinwood must have been like. Clair is 91 years old and speaks from first hand knowledge.

"We used to go to the Maennerchor. They had Friday night dances and a big party once a month. This was at the old building that's still standing," she told us. There were always entertainments and parties, groups of people coming in from out of town to stay a few days, and always dances and music," then she added, "and plenty of beer." She looked away and thought then looked directly at me, "but you know people didn't get drunk. They didn't drink the hard stuff, just plenty of beer."

She thought a moment, "That's why this was called Little Germany, we had beer when nobody else did."

"At some of the parties they'd open the tap and never close it until the barrel was empty. The boys would get half tooted and sing, and dance, and there was always plenty of food," she reminisced.

"A lot of famous people came from here, like Fritz Huppman (we aren't sure of the spelling), he sang in an opera troupe in New York and brought his whole company out here for the opening of the Opera House. Then there was Kay Weber who sang with the Dorsey orchestra, and Ruth (Johnson) Dugan who was a fine musician. And we had good teachers we could go to for piano and voice lessons, like Gertrude Cleophas who had studied with the famous Austrian teacher, Lechitisky."

The Musil family entertained extensively with many people coming to spend several days, and music was a big part of their lives with Clair, her brother and sister forming a family orchestra to play for parties and dances. "We'd be having a big party and when the train came in on Saturday night we'd all go down to the station to meet it," she said.

Clair also had some specific historical information on the old movie showrooms in Ellinwood. "When I was 11 years old I used to play the piano at the cinema for Froggie Koelsch. It was the first in Ellinwood and next to Mangelsdorf's store." This def-

An article from a 1981 newspaper (probably the *Ellinwood Leader*) regarding Clair Musil Heaney's musings on the strong musical community of early Ellinwood, Kansas. She was Ruth Johnson's first piano teacher. Clair talked about famous people from Ellinwood and said Ruth Johnson Dugan [Duncan] was a fine musician.

Note: Ruth's Oct 1978 notes say Clair Musil Heaney still lives in Wilmington, California. The third column mentions Charlie Bacon, a family friend of the Johnsons.

Ruth's handwritten note in the margin noting Clair's death and that Ruth's piano teacher Homer Simmons was the next and last she ever had.

Died in 1983
Krueger returned 16 to 22
My first piano teacher
Homer Simmons in
Ellinwood, Calif. the
next & last.

nately places the first movie in the building now housing the 1883. "Later the cinema moved across the street to Charlie Bacon's Oak Parlor." That would be the Alpine Ovens building.

Mrs. Heaney went on for her musical training to the Horner Institute (now the Conservatory of Music, part of University of Missouri in Kansas City) where, 1916-18, she studied piano, and violin with Forrest Schultz, a wellknown musician who was married to an Ellinwooder.

"Back in Ellinwood I taught music and each year gave a big recital at the Wolf home. Mrs. Wolf was a Heim from Kansas City and a wellknown pianist. I really wanted to go on the stage, in the Lyceum or the Chatauqua circuit--I always loved an audience--but had to come back for family reasons."

Also back in Ellinwood Clair married Pat Heaney.

The fast darting conversation continued, "Out in Pasadena I played for Mrs. Edward McDowell, the composer's wife."

And back to Ellinwood, "We had

wonderful clothes available right here in Ellinwood, the latest, most exclusive fashions. Kate Koelsch would go to Kansas City for showings of the latest fashions and bring them back. They were sold in Mangelsdorf's in a small section in the back of the store."

Clair also told of going to school in the old wooden building next to St. Joseph's church when it too was of wood. "We had Dominican nuns and lessons were in German and English. But I loved the chances to perform at school. We, my brother and sister, always sang. I just hated to leave the stage."

Many of Clair's stories revolved around her father, who came to Ellinwood from Bohemia (then part of Austria). One concerned his acting as his own lawyer to sue the bank for usury after they had charged him 18 percent interest. He won the case.

After talking to Clair for forty minutes we had to agree, if the early Ellinwooders were anything like her, this must have been a lively place in the good old days.

The Glee Clubs

of

Ellinwood High School

Present

"Tulip Time"

An Operetta in Three Acts

By

Geoffrey Morgan and Frederick Johnson

E. H. S. AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1928

Ruth Johnson in the chorus of Dutch girls in "Tulip Time" as a sophomore at Ellinwood High School, Kansas, 20 Apr 1928

Cast of Characters

Hans—A young Dutch apprentice Melba Redmon
Aunt Anna—Christina's guardian Eleanor Stolz
Katinka—A village maiden Florence Zecha
Hendrick Van Ooster—Burgomaster of Osendorf
Christina—A charming Dutch girl Margaret Wolf
Theophilus McSpindle—An authority on botany Dorothy Isern
Ned Baxter—An American college student Arthur Hagen
Dick Warren—A fellow student of Ned Walter Schneider
Pat—An Irish gardener Paul Weiss
Gretchen—The cook Telford Young
Chorus of Dutch Villagers, American Students, Etc. Lydia Panning

CHORUS OF DUTCH GIRLS

Ruth Johnson, Mildred Schemaider, Pauline Kimpler
Lucille Haas, Martha Schmidt, Mary Stolz, Ulanda
Arendsdorf, Lorraine McMullen, Dorothy Ziegenbusch,
Margaret Schmidt, Margaret Berscheidt, Leota Wagner
Violet Schneider, Eleanor Knipp, Vivian Archer, Helen
Wurm, Nadine Rolfing, Sophia Schneider, Esther
Seiker

CHORUS OF DUTCH BOYS

Leonard Birzer, Fred Berscheidt, Elmer Galliard, Nor-
man Mellies, Werner Schartz, Homer Eberhardt, Ger-
ald Hartmetz, Duayne McMullen, Milton Lanterman,
Harold Weiss, John Oberle, Leon Roth, Herman Ziegen-
busch, Walter Roth, Mildred Dick, Neva Stone, Jennie
Stoneman, Elizabeth Herold, Dorothy Davis

AMERICAN STUDENTS

Vivian Archer, Nadine Rolfing, Sophia Schneider,
Helen Wurm, Werner Schartz, Fred Berscheidt, John
Oberle, Leonard Birzer

SCENE—Market place in the village of Osendorf

TIME—The present; midsummer

Act I—A bright morning in summer

Act II—Afternoon of the same day

Act III—Same as Act II

ARGUMENT

The village, enjoying a holiday, is startled by the ar-
rival of a party of American tourists, college students,
under the leadership of Professor McSpindle, a tutor
in botany, to study tulip culture. Two of the party,
Ned and Dick, are much more interested in Christina
and her friend, Katinka. News reaches the village
that a thief has been looting choice bulbs of prize tulips
and a handbill describes the thief and offers a reward
for his capture. Ned and Dick induce McSpindle to
wear certain clothing, answering the description of the
tulip thief. When the Burgomaster beholds McSpindle
so attired he causes his arrest. With McSpindle out of
the way, Ned and Dick promote their friendship with
the girls, and learn that Christina's stock is, unknown
to her, of immense value. They reveal the truth to
her and thwart the Burgomaster's attempt to grow rich
at her expense. With the assistance of Christina's
Aunt Anna, the innocence of McSpindle is established,
and the latter declares his affection for her; and with
the prospect of a triple wedding the final curtain falls.

—oo—



**Ruth Johnson, Long Beach,
California, about 1928**



**Ruth Johnson, left, and Harriet Hughes at Alligator Farm,
Southern California about 1928**



**Ruth (front left) with her
friends, probably in
Long Beach, California**

ORCHESTRA FIXES SCHEDULE FOR 1929 COMING TERM

The orchestra is looking forward to giving a musical program for the Senior Play and also to giving a Christmas concert. At this time Mr. Moore proposes to combine all the bands and orchestras of both high school and Junior College into one ensemble.

A community service program has always been given each year by the orchestra, and one will probably be given this year.

The advanced orchestra has a membership of 38 this year, a slightly smaller group than last year's. Mr. Moore says that it is none the less capable of doing great things for the school.

Eleanor Pabst, a violinist of outstanding merit, has entered the orchestra this year. Margaret Ellis has returned after a year's absence. She plays the bass-viol in that section. Margaret has received the honor of being chosen drum-major.

Those holding first chair positions are: Mona Downer, concert mistress; Max Bramble, second violin; Blanche Jones, cello; Eleanor Cunningham, bass; Sterling Smith, flute and piccolo; Norman Noice, Clarinet; David Kalbfell, trumpet; Burrell Ubben, trombone; Paul Lawrence, Percussion; Glenn Seiben, French horn; Eileen Loughbridge, viola; Constance Bennett, saxophone; and John Goun, bass saxophone. The new pianist is Eloise Ferguson.

Mr. Moore says. "The orchestra is always willing to do its best to foster a good school spirit." School organizations are invited to see Mr. Moore if the orchestra can be of service to any worthy endeavor.

The officers, as recently elected are: Burrell Ubben, president; Kenneth Millner, vice president; Margaret Ellis, secretary-treasure; Ruth Johnson, publicity; Elbert Frolick, manager; Kenneth Millner, assistant manager.

Left:
Ruth Johnson, as
publicity officer of
the Woodrow
Wilson High
School orchestra,
wrote this
newspaper article
about their
schedule. Among
others, she named
two good friends,
Mona Downer
and Norman
Noice.
Long Beach,
California, 1929

Right:
This newspaper
clipping shows
Ruth Johnson
performed at a
wedding reception
with Mrs.
B. C. Johnson
accompanying her
on piano.
[It should say Mrs.
"D". C. Johnson,
who is Ruth's
mother. Ruth,
barely 17, played
the violin.]
28 Dec 1929

Frances E. Lovell Becomes Bride at Residence Service

In the presence of sixty-five relatives and friends, the marriage of Miss Frances Ellen Lovell and Clare Spellman Chaffee took place Saturday at 1 P. M. in the home of the bride's parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Lovell, 344 Carroll Park East. Preceding the ceremony, Miss Fay McFarland, violinist, played "A Dawning" and "Oh, Promise Me," after which Mrs. Mary Hill of Ontario played the wedding march.

Palms, fern, smilax and myriad of gay colored flowers made a beautiful floral recess for the marriage service, for which Dr. G. W. Cassidy, formerly of First Baptist Church, now Field Secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society in Chicago, officiated.

Attending the bridegroom was Lynn Crawford of Santa Ana and Miss Elizabeth Hoy of Santa Ana was maid of honor. The bride was given in marriage by her father.

During the reception and buffet luncheon, Miss McFarland and Miss Ruth Johnson played "Because," "Sweet Mystery of Life" and "I Love You Truly," Mrs. B. C. Johnson accompanying.

After a brief wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee will reside in San Francisco, where the bridegroom is a chemist with the Illinois Pacific Glass Company. Mr. Chaffee, who formerly resided in Garden Grove, is a 1924 Leland Stanford University graduate. Mrs. Chaffee was born in Long Beach, graduating from Polytechnic High School in 1925, attending Redlands University and the University of California.

She wore a white satin gown at the wedding with a long veil and bride's bouquet of white rosebuds, orchids and lilies of the valley. Miss Hoy wore pink satin, carrying matching sweet peas.

* * * *

Mrs. Allen K. Chase
Presents Violin Pupils
in Recital

Miss Edna Schinnerer
At the Piano

Fourteen Fifty-six Elm Avenue
The Twenty-ninth of June
Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-nine
Seven-thirty o'Clock

**Ruth Johnson's violin recital with
her mother as her accompanist,
Long Beach, California, 1929**

PROGRAM

SUNSHINE POLKA	McIntire
June Myrmo	
PONY RACE	Krogmann
Horace Harkness	
CRADLE SONG	Hauser
Charles Thornberry	
VACATION TIME	McIntire
Charles Robinson	
EVENING BELLS	McIntire
Thelma Myrmo	
FIFTH AVE. VARIE, Op. 89, No. 5	Charles Dancla
Allen Anderson	
CONCERTO, No. I, A Minor	Accolay
Billy Hudspeth	
Accompanist, J. H. Hudspeth	
ORIENTALE	Cui
Beverley Shaddock	
FAUST	Alard
Ruth Johnson	
Accompanist, Mrs. D. C. Johnson	
SPANISH DANCE	Moszkowski
Randell Whaley	
Accompanist, Marine Whaley	
MIGHTY LAK' A ROSE	Nevin
Margariete Leonhardt	

PROGRAM

NORWEGIAN DANCE	Grieg
Bennie Wilson	
SAMSON ET DALILA	Saint-Saens
Ruth Bovyer	
HUMORESKE, Op. 10	Tschaikowsky
Francis Moore	
Accompanist, Margaret Moore	
(a) PRELUDE	Sinding
(b) THE DEVILS ARE AMUSED	Rebikoff
Edna Schinnerer	
INDIAN LOVE CALL	Kortchak (Friml)
Vincent Crofut	
INTERMEZZO (Cavalleria Rusticana)	Mascagni
Annaletta Morris	
LA ZINGANA (Mazurka)	Bohm
Herbert Eaton	
MARCH MILITAIRE	Schubert
Orin Anderson	
Accompanist, Bonnie Murdock	
(a) ELEGIE	Massenet
(b) HUNGARIAN DANCE, No. 5	Brahms
Fay McFarland	
(a) MOMENT MUSICALE	Schubert
(b) SERENADE D'AMOUR	F. V. Blon
Fay McFarland, Ruth Johnson	
Accompanist, Mrs. D. C. Johnson	

Program of concert of violinist Jacques Thibaud and pianist Tasso Janopoulo attended by Ruth Johnson, who got their autographs Long Beach, California, 1929



Among Southland Artists, the names Homer Grunn, Pietro Cimini, Sylvain Noack, Celeste Ryus, Marguerite LeGrand hold eminent position. . . It is significant that these and many other world-renowned artists use the Baldwin piano exclusively. . . The same qualities which make the Baldwin the choice of the Artists also make it supreme for your Home! We invite you people of Long Beach to our Los Angeles store to see, hear and play this master instrument.

EDWARD H. UHL, *President*
**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
 MUSIC COMPANY**
 806 South Broadway, Los Angeles

Municipal Auditorium
 Long Beach, California
 October 25, 1929

Civic Concert Series

KATHERYN COFFIELD
Manager
 PRESENTS

**JACQUES
 THIBAUD**
Violinist
TASSO JANOPOULO
of the BALDWIN

PROGRAM

<p>I.</p> <p>Sonate - <i>Henri Eccles (1670-1742)</i> Arr. J. Salmon</p> <p>Adagio - - - <i>Vivaldi-Bach</i> Arr. Pochon</p> <p>Prelude and Allegro - - <i>Pugnani</i> Arr. Kreisler</p> <p>II.</p> <p>Concerto, B Minor - <i>Saint-Saens</i> Allegro non troppo Andantino quasi allegretto Allegro non troppo</p>	<p>III.</p> <p>En Bateau - - - <i>Debussy</i></p> <p>Spanish Dance - - - <i>Granados</i> (MMS. dedicated to Mr. Thibaud)</p> <p>Sicilienne (18th Century) - <i>Paradis</i></p> <p>La Vida Breve - - - <i>De Falla</i> Arr. Kreisler</p>
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Concert Management Arthur Judson, Inc.
 Wolfsohn Musical Bureau of New York, Inc.
 Steinway Hall, 113 West 57th Street, New York City

ALL THIBAUD VICTOR RECORDS at the Southern California Music Company

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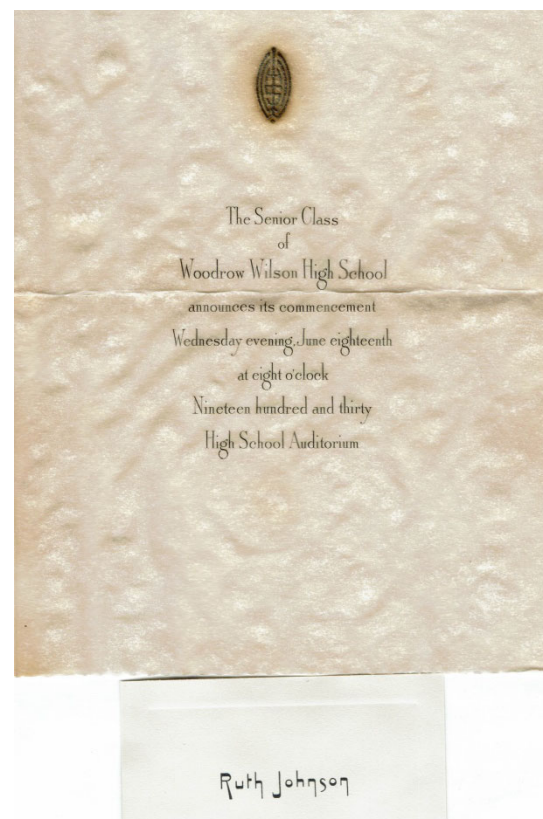
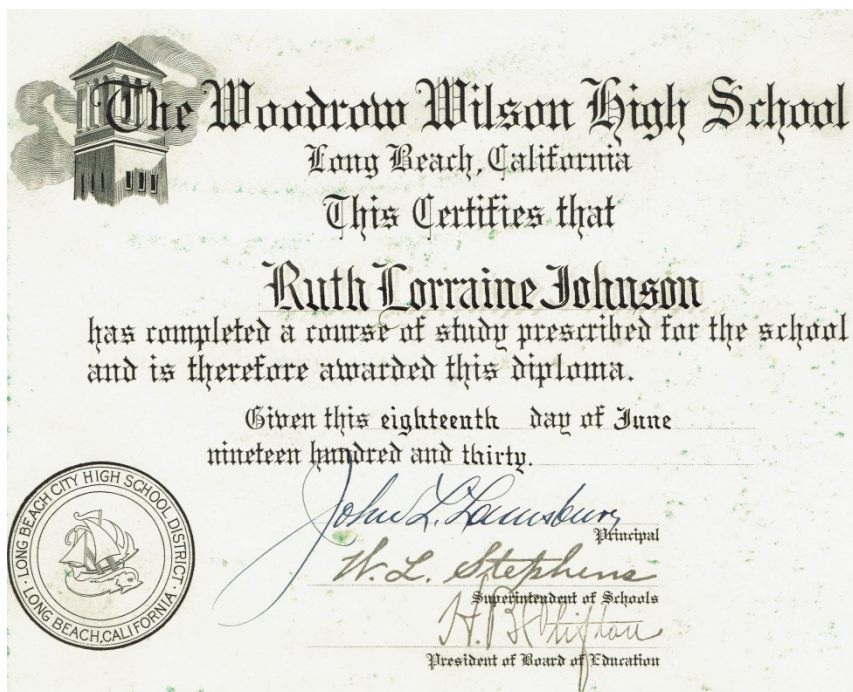


**Ruth Johnson in
her cap and gown,
1930**



**Ruth in her prom
dress, about 1930**

**Ruth's high school
diploma (below)
and graduation
announcement (right),
Woodrow Wilson
High School, 1930**



Woodrow Wilson High School Long Beach, California



**Photo taken
Aug 2000**





Long Beach Junior College Orchestra, Apr 1931

Piano and back row, L. to R.: Wilella Carter (piano), Ed McDowell (1st trumpet), Carl Spano (trumpet), unknown, Marie Carr (drums), George C. Moore (conductor), Jimmie Rose (tympani), unknown (bass). Front Row Chairs: Rosalind Chubbic (concertmaster 2nd semester), Ruth Johnson (concertmaster 1st semester), Virginia Welch (violin), unknown (violin/viola), Robert Callaway (flute), Ed Cary (1st clarinet), Virginia Blair (cello), George Carl (clarinet), Blanche Jones (1st cello)



**Ruth Johnson
with her violin
about 1930**



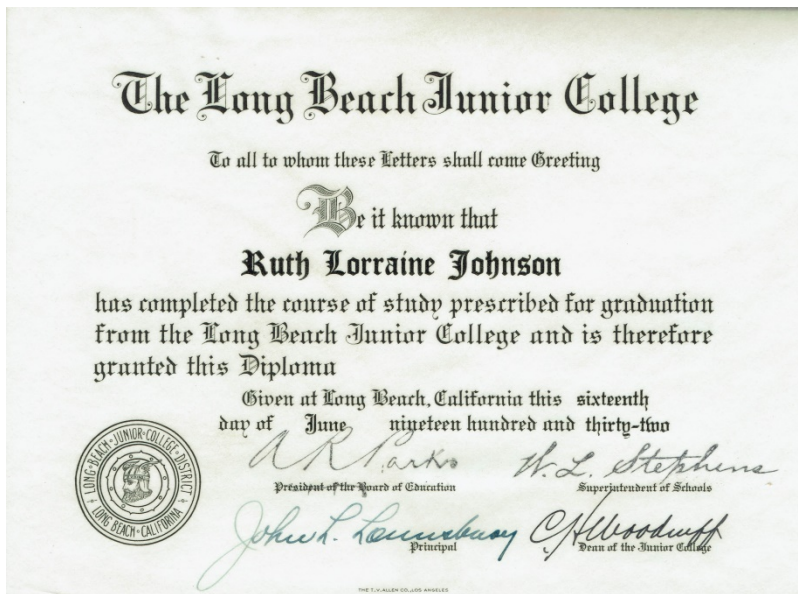
**Ruth with
her violin in
orchestra uniform
about 1930**



Leota Wagner about 1930



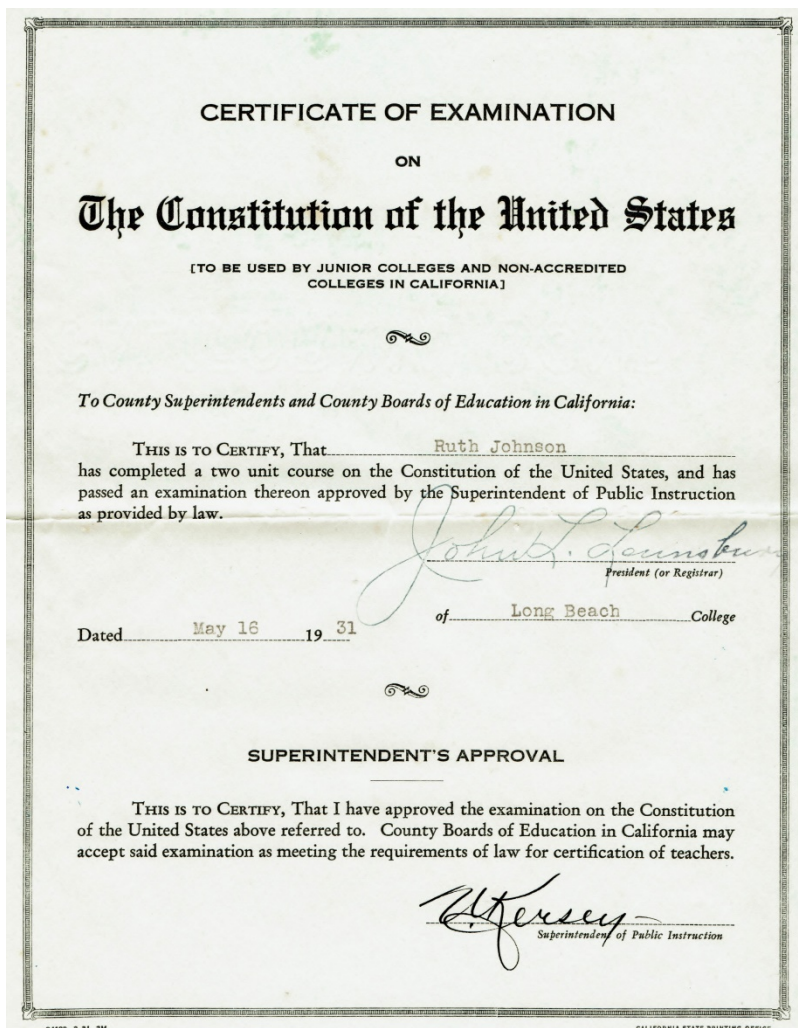
Ruth's graduation from Long Beach Junior College



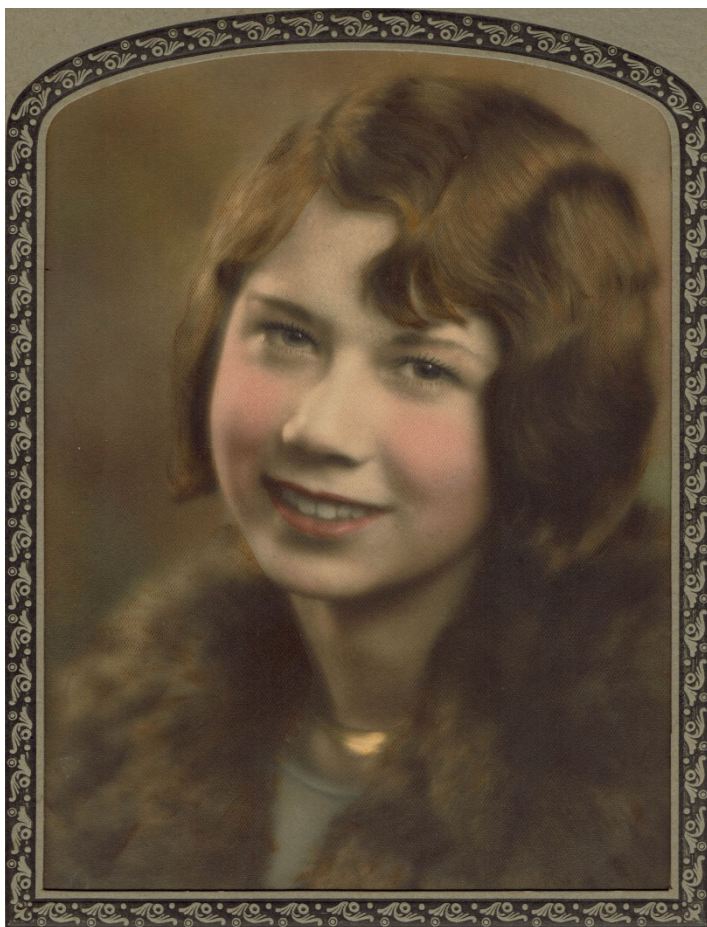
Ruth in her cap and gown at home at 244 Ximeno, Long Beach, California, June 1932



Ruth's U.S. Constitution exam certificate



Ruth Lorraine Johnson



Above:
Photo by Austin Studio,
Los Angeles and San Diego



**Ruth at age 24 in 1936, the
year before her marriage.**



**Ruth Johnson in car,
taken by Norman Noice,
Ruth's boyfriend,
inscription says "send
this one back"
Long Beach, California,
1930**



**Norman Noice,
4223 Shaw St.,
Long Beach,
1930**



**Norman Noice in his
cap and gown,
Woodrow Wilson High
School Graduation,
Long Beach
1930**



**Norman with Ruth's
4-month-old puppy, Niki,
at Ruth's house,
244 Ximeno Ave, Long Beach
late Dec 1931 - early Jan 1932**

Ruth's dog, Niki, Long Beach, California



Niki in back yard of 244 Ximeno Ave.



**Ruth, who had just turned 19, holding
4-month-old Niki, 244 Ximeno Ave.,
late Dec 1931 – early Dec 1932**

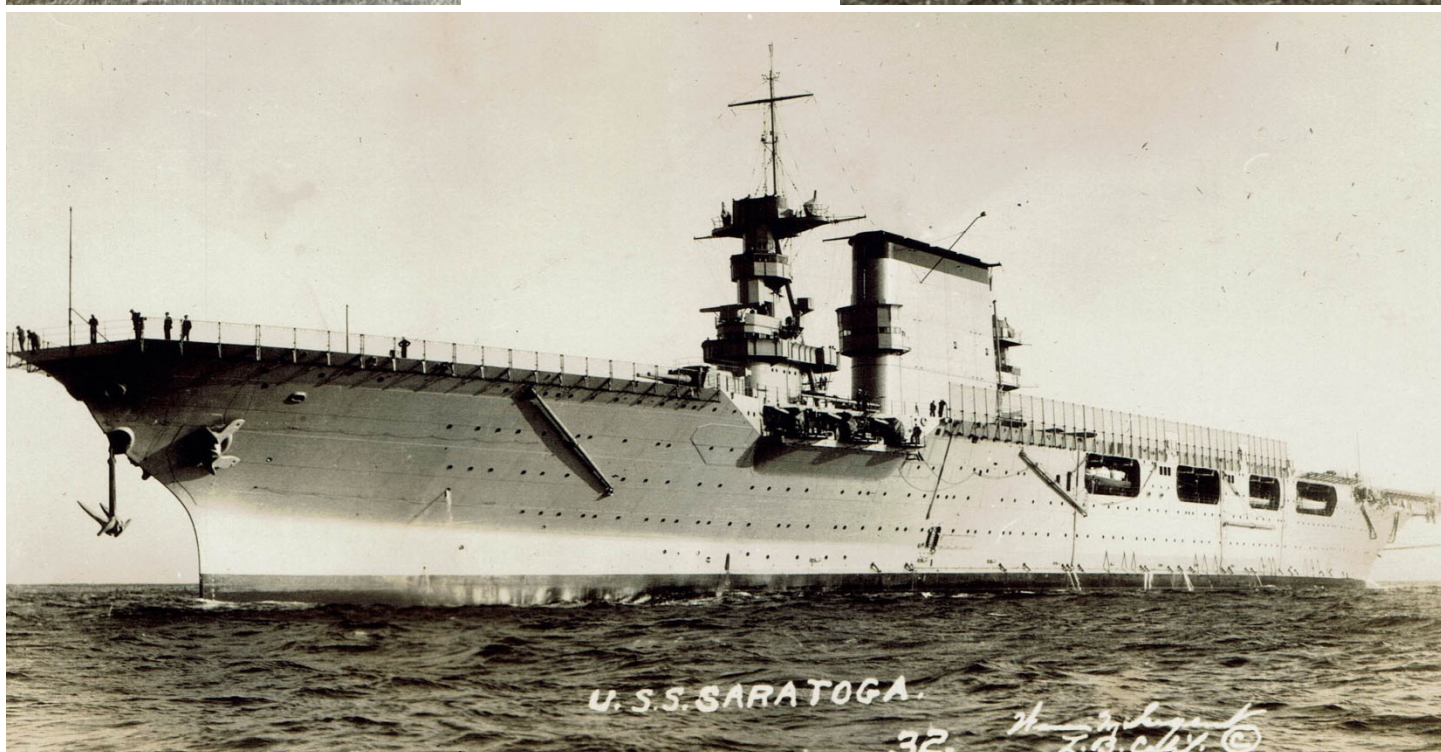




**Ruth Johnson at
244 Ximeno Ave.,
Long Beach, about 1932**



**Ruth Johnson at
Avalon, Catalina Island,
about 1935**



One of Ruth's most memorable jobs was playing on a large battleship, the "Lexington" or the "Saratoga". She remembers it as quite a challenge getting from the small boat onto a ladder to the battleship while clutching her violin, purse, and music!

**10 Jan 1942 letter from D. C. Johnson to daughter
Ruth Duncan with a check for a sewing machine,
shown here because of her love of sewing**

Long Beach, Calif., Jan. 10, 1942.

Dear Ruth:

I called up Sears Roebuck & Co. this morning to inquire about the Federal Tax on Sewing Machines. The party I talked to said there was no Federal Tax, but the State Sales Tax applies, this amounting to 3%.

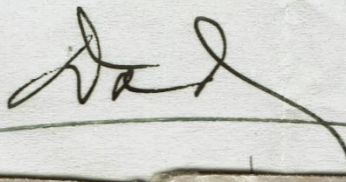
I know you are anxious to get the machine and get to your sewing, so I am enclosing check for the amount which I have figured as follows:

Kenmore Machine -----	\$57.77	
State Tax-----	1.73	\$59.50

The Lough's were over last evening and we played cards. We're going to a dance tonight. Tomorrow we are invited over to the Schoonover's for dinner, so you see we are all set for another day as far as food is concerned.

Will close for this time as it is about time to take Mama over to have her hair fixed up for this evening. Come over when you can. Lots of love to all.

Dad.



After Five Days Return to
D. C. Johnson
244 Ximeno Ave.,
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA



Mrs. Charles Duncan Jr.,
2916 West 80th.,
Inglewood, Calif.

Ruth's best friend and next-door neighbor was Leota Wagner. Ruth and Leota became lifelong friends. On one cold snowy day, their mothers made potato soup which Leota's mother delivered to their school as it was too stormy for the girls to walk home for lunch. The soup tasted wonderful! Ruth loved ice cream and peanut butter, which her parents seldom had. However, Leota Wagner's parents next-door had both and Ruth enjoyed eating with them to get these favorite treats, as well as Grandma Wagner's thin pancakes.

Ruth attended the Evangelical Church in Ellinwood as a girl. Beginning at about age six, her mother taught her piano, and from about age 8-11, she took piano and violin lessons from Clara Musil in Ellinwood. Clara lived in a huge house. Her father had died and left his widow living there. Clara's bedroom was right off the living room where Ruth took piano lessons. Clara had little money and made dresses from old curtains. Once, Ruth was nipped by a rooster in front of a white house she passed on her way to her piano lesson. The Johnsons lived in Long Beach, California, for Ruth's 7th grade, and when they returned to Ellinwood, Ruth took violin lessons from Clara for a few weeks before switching to Mr. Tilley. Clara was a Weber of Weber Furniture and Funeral Home and gave lessons there at the business. At some point, Clara married contractor Pat Heaney and they later moved to Wilmington, California. Ruth and her parents visited Clara and Pat in their tiny apartment there. [Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 20 Oct 1961 diary entry shows he and Ruth took Clair and Pat Heaney to the Great Bend Petroleum Club for dinner and then showed them their home movies afterwards.] Clara died in 1993.

Leota Wagner also took lessons from Clara Musil starting a week after Ruth and they always joked that Leota was never as good because she started lessons later. Leota's cousins Ronald Wagner played violin, his brother Omar played the saxophone and perhaps the clarinet, and Evelyn Wagner played the piano. The Wagners were a musical family. Ruth named her daughter Lorraine Evelyn after Evelyn Wagner, who was two years older than Ruth and very pretty and popular, and her dear friend Leota Wagner, whose middle name is Lorraine.

For three years beginning in 8th grade when she was about 12, Ruth took violin lessons from Perle Edwin "P. E." Tilley. She played in his violin choir with four-part harmony and in concerts at his home in Ransom, Kansas. On a trip there, she remembered that her dad's car, a 1925 or 1926 Buick had its lights go out on the way home and she had to hold something to make them work. While she attended 8th, 9th, and 10th grades in Ellinwood, her dad was on the school board. The school was an old two-story brick building. Ruth could not remember whether or not she played in an Ellinwood school orchestra. After three years in Ellinwood, Ruth and her parents moved back to California when she was a junior, first living in a rented house in Long Beach. Ruth's uncle Eason Johnson had gone out first, followed by her grandparents, Amos and Emma Johnson. [Amos' obituary shows he and Emma moved to Long Beach in 1923.] In Long Beach, Ruth first took violin lessons from Mrs. Chase who wasn't very good. Ruth's mother played piano for those lessons. From 1928-1935, Ruth took violin lessons from Leah Dana Seykora, whose husband was good-looking. Ruth played in the orchestra at Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach for two years and in the junior college there for two years.

She took piano lessons from Mr. Homer Simmons for several years in the early 1940s in Inglewood. On an undated and unnamed newspaper clipping [probably the *Ellinwood Leader*] about Clair Musil Heaney, 91, music teacher and talented pianist from Ellinwood, Ruth Duncan wrote in the margin that Clair was her first piano teacher and Homer Simmons in Inglewood, California, was her next and last piano teacher.

Homer Simmons was a well-known pianist and composer, who had been a student of composer and former Prime Minister of Poland Ignacy Paderewski and composer Ottorino Respighi. [A 27 Mar (no year) letter from Homer Simmons to Ruth showed his address was 10244 Plainview, Tujunga, California. He said he had just finished composing a light opera based on Red Riding Hood. It was in rehearsals and the first performance was to be 8 May. He and (his partner) George (Scharl) had recently purchased a house on 3 acres in Sunland. He was still commuting to Inglewood.]

Ruth's grandparents, Amos and Emma Johnson, had an old brown ukulele in the garage and she learned all of six chords on it. She still remembered it is tuned to G, C, E, and A. [It is unclear when she learned the ukulele.]

*****End of Notes from discussions with my mother in 1978-2006*****

In the spring recital by students of Miss Musil in Mrs. Fred Wolf's home on 29 Jun 1920, Ruth Johnson played a piano duet with Leota Wagner and also played a solo. Mrs. D. C. Johnson and Mrs. Fred Wolf were accompanists. A program for the Second Annual Spring Recital by the students of Miss Musil at the same home on 7 Jun 1921 shows Ruth Johnson played a piano solo. The Third Annual Spring Recital by the students of the same teacher at the same home on 20 Jun 1922 shows Ruth Johnson played a piano solo and played in a violin ensemble [at age 9].

Ellinwood Public Schools report cards show Ruth Johnson was in the first grade in the school year 1918-1919 and Miss Mattie L. Fruit was her teacher that year and the next. Ruth said she went to first grade a year earlier than normal for her age as her parents were concerned that Miss Fruit might retire soon. However, Miss Fruit continued teaching there for many more years. [Ruth told me on 13 May 2006 that Miss Fruit was still teaching when Ruth graduated from high school.] Miss Fruit gave Ruth a small round vase with yellow flowers which she had painted as a wedding gift. Other report cards show Ruth's attendance there through 1923 when she was in the fifth grade. A high school report card from an unnamed school or town shows her attendance from 1925-1926. Her grades were in the 80s, except for music which was 94. [She would have been in 8th grade in Ellinwood that year.]

Ruth told me that when their daughter Martha died, the Wolf family bought an organ for the Evangelical Church on Main St. in Ellinwood, which Ruth attended. They also gave the town a park with a band shell. Previously, there had been a wagon which was pulled into town and used as a portable band stand.

The 1924 Ellinwood School yearbook shows Ruth Johnson in the sixth grade. The 1926 yearbook shows her as the Vice-President of the eighth grade class. She said she attended the seventh grade in Long Beach, California.

In the *Mom Share Your Life With Me* book written in 1996-1997, Ruth wrote these girlhood addresses in Long Beach, California:

A duplex next to 377 Loma Ave.

A duplex on Vermont? near 377 Loma Ave.

A house at 6th & Loma

A duplex on Shaw St.

A house at 244 Ximeno.

Ruth said she was named after two daughters of a McMullen family. One was Ruth and the other was Lorraine, who was about Ruth's age.

She wrote that she saw President Herbert Hoover in Bixby Park in Long Beach giving a talk. Her first boyfriend was Leonard Birzer who died in 1995. Their first date was to Great Bend in his brother's Ford to a school function in which the Ellinwood school was involved. However, her parents didn't approve of him probably because Ruth was too young (14 or 15).

Ruth's favorite TV shows were the Boston Pops, *The Jack Benny Program*, *I Love Lucy*, *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Carol Burnett Show*, *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and *The Jackie Gleason Show*. Her favorite radio programs featured Ted Fio Rito, Bing Crosby, and Amos & Andy. Her favorite movies as a youngster were ones starring Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, and Harold Lloyd. Later, Greta Garbo was her favorite movie star as she was exotic, beautiful and played in quite a few notable movies. Her favorite songs played with the family were "Beautiful Ohio" and "The Missouri Waltz." Her mother would play the piano and her father attempted to play the violin, but he had never had

lessons and had a hard time finding the right notes. She also enjoyed "Never Leave Me", "Embraceable You", "Stardust", and "The Man I Love". She had one doll she played with and her mother or grandmother Alice Lash made a stuffed toy rabbit that she still has. She also really liked her cat and hunting for tadpoles. Her favorite color is green and her favorite foods are prime rib and anything chocolate. Besides playing the piano and violin, her pastimes were reading and needlepoint [also sewing and knitting].

She went to school in Ellinwood through the 6th grade, then both Fremont Junior High School at 4000 East 4th St., Long Beach, and Jefferson Junior High School, Long Beach, for 7th grade. She attended school in Ellinwood for 8th grade, freshman and sophomore years. Then they returned to Long Beach, and she attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach for her junior and senior years, graduating in 1930. She attended Long Beach Junior College for two years, and after graduation, took a few courses (mostly orchestra, harmony and music appreciation) in a third year.

Her favorite school subjects were English, music appreciation and orchestra. She was good at spelling and spelled down her class in the 6th or 7th grade. Her parents gave her a Bulova wrist watch which she lost one day while carrying me in her arms. Her least favorite subject was arithmetic. The biggest problem she had in junior high school was adjusting to a new school in Long Beach and having such poor eyesight. She got lost in the school corridor at Jefferson Jr. High in Long Beach looking for her classroom. She picked Long Beach Junior College to attend because it was handy. Classes were held at Woodrow Wilson High School, and during the 1933 earthquake, classes were held outside on bleachers. Her major was Liberal Arts.

Her childhood illnesses were measles, mumps, and chicken pox. She had scarlet fever in the 7th grade in Long Beach and missed a month of school and was quarantined. She had lots of bronchitis as a girl and most of her adult life. She had appendicitis when she was in college. The appendix was removed at St. Mary's Hospital. Her boyfriend Norman Noice brought her a little radio. She tuned it to play a piece by Bach, but the nurse said it was too mournful and changed stations. It was not her "cup of tea", Ruth guessed. [Ruth also told me that when she complained of severe abdominal pain to her parents, they dismissed her complaint for quite some time until she finally convinced them of its severity. She was admitted to the hospital late in the afternoon or evening, but the doctor wouldn't perform the surgery until the next day. By then, it had ruptured and gangrene had set in. She was hospitalized for many days and the surgery left a long, ugly scar.]

Her biggest lifelong physical problems were deafness and vitiligo. [Her mother Florence also suffered with vitiligo. Ruth's hearing improved after two stapes mobilization operations in 1960 and 1962, but after a few years, her hearing worsened until she was nearly completely deaf when she died. She wore hearing aids all my life, and she was only 25 when I was born. Her doctor told her another pregnancy would worsen her hearing ... something to do with calcium in her bones ... so they had no more children. Her maternal grandmother Alice Lash or "Deandy" was quite deaf in her later years, and Ruth knew what was at risk. Much later, Ruth learned that subsequent pregnancies would not have worsened her hearing loss.]

One example of the problems she had with vitiligo was when her lips were extremely sunburned from boating with Charles at Lake Kanopolis. Her lips turned black and were very swollen for days and days. It was painful and she was ashamed for anyone to see her. [For many years she also wore heavy make-up to cover the white spots on her face. Finally as she neared the end of her life, her skin was white all over.]

Her best school friends in Ellinwood were Leota Wagner, Martha and Margie Schmidt, Laura Knap, and Katherine Klepper. Leota and Ruth were born in houses next-door to each other and when Leota got skates, Ruth got skates, etc. They stayed overnight together, went to the movies together, etc. Their parents were close friends, too. In Long Beach, Ruth enjoyed shopping and going to the beach, The Pike amusement park, and movies. Her best friends there were Katherine Combs, Flora Caldwell and Harriet Hughes. [In a 1995 discussion, she also named friends Clair and Dorothy Hinckley and her boyfriend Norman Noice.] Her best violin trio friends were Mona Downer, Mary Swift and Leone

Turnbow. Mona and she played violin obbligatos to a women's chorus at one school event. Ruth also played "Pomp and Circumstance" on the violin in school orchestras for many school graduations. She said that for some reason it is physically very tiring, so the violinists would take turns playing. After the 1933 earthquake, graduation exercises were held in Recreation Park in Long Beach.

A favorite Memorial Day tradition as a child was her parents would order large white flowers from Texas. They were very fragrant and may have been jasmine buds. They would put them in the basement until Memorial Day. Then they would then take them to the cemetery and place them on their relatives' graves and visit with friends and acquaintances there. She did not go on picnics in Ellinwood, but in Long Beach they attended big Kansas picnics in Bixby Park. These were pretty citified picnics. [Many Midwesterners moved to Long Beach in the 1920s and 1930s, and it was common for new residents from Midwest states to have big picnics for each state.]

In my 12 Sep 1999 visit with my father, Charles said Ruth lived at several addresses in Long Beach in the summers before moving to California, including Vermont St., Shaw St., and two or three houses on Loma Ave. D. C. and Florence liked to leave the hot Kansas summers and stay in cooler Long Beach where he could fish off the pier. They moved to Long Beach before Ruth's seventh grade, during which she had a birthday party. The guests had their purses or money stolen, as someone entered the bedroom window during the party.

Ruth wrote in 1995 that her father was a banker who used to frequent "Froggy's Pool Hall" in Ellinwood to meet other local businessmen and farmers. When Ruth wanted some money to buy an ice cream cone or treat, she would stand outside "Froggy's" and one of the men would notice her and yell to her father that his daughter was outside. Her father was a generous man to his family and friends. Her treats were mostly drinking Cokes at Wagner's Drug Store and eating a sack of peanuts.

Ruth said she never expected to have a job, as she thought she would just keep house. She told me on other occasions that she never intended to work whether she married or not. She expected to live with her parents until they died. After graduating on 18 Jun 1930, Ruth's first job was probably playing the violin at dances. She organized a girls' violin trio which played for many dances, club functions and parties. One of her most memorable jobs was playing on a large battleship, the "Lexington" or the "Saratoga". She remembered it as quite a challenge getting from the small boat onto a ladder to the battleship while clutching her violin, purse, and music!

She continued her musical studies while attending Long Beach Junior College and graduated on 16 Jun 1932. She continued taking music courses and playing in its orchestra in 1933. She started playing for dances earning \$3 a night and \$5 for New Year's Eve. She and a saxophone player got lost one night in Palos Verdes [a town with hilly, winding streets near Long Beach], California. One job was at a place out in the country, probably a house of ill repute.

She wore some beautiful evening dresses to these jobs. She also played piano for Mrs. Grace Ewart who taught tap dancing to children. It was a terrible piano with several ivories partly missing, and it was a somewhat boring job. A Chopin etude was the only piece that required practice at home.

She doesn't remember what Mrs. Ewart paid her, but doesn't think it was much. Mrs. Ewart had a Pontiac she called "Jasper" about this time. Ruth also played for Dorothy Hinkley's dance recital in Palm Springs. Ruth started giving piano lessons to beginners and adults after she was married and living in Inglewood, California. She continued teaching piano in the 1950s when she lived in Barton County, Kansas. [Lorraine took piano lessons from her mother when she was about five years old and Ruth had many other piano students among the Inglewood neighborhood children, as well.]

Ruth wrote in 1995 that when she was 12 years old, she began wearing glasses as she was near-sighted. This helped her considerably in school to see the blackboard. The Wagners had a black terrier called "Buster" and Charles [Wood, a young friend] had a cute white poodle-type dog, "Toots". Ruth had a white Spitz dog, "Pixie", when she was very young. Later Ruth's parents got a Boston

Terrier, "Niki", from a Mrs. Jewett who raised Boston Terriers. After Ruth married, she had two other Boston Terriers from Mrs. Jewett, "Peter" and "Polly". An even later dog "Happy" who lived in the 1970s and 1980s had some of Mrs. Jewett's dogs in his ancestry.

Ruth wrote in 1995 that when she was about 14 or 15, her dad taught her how to drive in his Buick in Ellinwood.

In my 10 Feb 1996 visit with my parents, Ruth told me she was driven by Mrs. Ewart in 1935 or 1936 to the Ernest Belcher dance studio on Western Ave. in Los Angeles [now called The Westmor] to see if Mr. Belcher would teach Mrs. Ewart a new dance. Mr. Belcher is the father of Marge Champion [famous Hollywood movie star and dancer with her husband Gower Champion].

Ruth Duncan told me on 23 Mar 2001 that they had a rule at Woodrow Wilson High School that students couldn't smoke within 3 blocks of school. Also, a student had to get the school's permission to leave the campus. She once got caught by her music teacher who saw her at the Teepee having a soda.

Ruth Johnson's 28 Dec 1928 birthday cards were addressed to 379 and 379B Loma Ave, Long Beach, California.

In my 12 Sep 1999 visit with my father, Charles said D. C. and Florence Johnson's house at Ximeno Ave. was built about 1930, as they lived in it for about a year before the 1933 earthquake. After large earthquakes, people camp out because big aftershocks continue for a few days. The first night after the earthquake, Ruth stayed with her boyfriend in his car and her parents spent the night visiting with the Conires in their car. On the second and third nights, Ruth and her parents and her grandmother Deandy lived in a tent in her grandparent's yard at 377 Loma Ave.

Ruth travelled to Catalina Island in about 1935, per a photo of her.

In a letter to Charles Duncan on Hotel The Oasis, Palm Springs, California, stationery postmarked 13 Apr 1939, Ruth asked her husband to tell his parents she is out of town, so his brother George doesn't come over for a lesson [Ruth gave him violin lessons for a while].

An unnamed and undated newspaper article has a photo and an article about the Dartmouth 4-H club winning an Ellinwood Junior Chamber of Commerce award. Lorraine was a member of that club and Ruth was the music leader.

The Fort Zarah Farm Bureau Unit 64th Anniversary program shows Ruth Duncan of 77-311 Sioux Dr., Indian Wells, California, was a member from 1962-1969. My 26 Sep 1962 letter to her and Charles congratulated her on being elected vice-president.

Ruth was very talented musically and kept busy learning and performing in her communities. In her middle years, Ruth performed for many years in a trio with good friends Cleo Tregellas, pianist, and Ruth Carey, violist. George and Cleo Marie Hayes Tregellas, as well as third string player Emma Lou Rounsavell, lived in Great Bend, and Ruth Carey lived in Ellinwood. Doris Hall was another string player who played with Ruth Duncan and Ruth Carey when they performed in Dec 1967 at the Larned Methodist Church.

Ruth learned to play the organ from Dorothy Miller, a musician in Larned, Kansas. In Palm Springs, California, Ruth took a few organ lessons from Don Tosti, a very popular musician in Los Angeles up through the 1960s, who kept a very low profile in the desert where Ruth lived. He has been called the godfather of Latin rhythm & blues and was a great arranger in both Latin and American music. She also took lessons from Gene Roberson, a well-known organist in Orange and Los Angeles Counties, when Ruth and Charles spent their summers in coastal Orange County.

A photo of Ruth Duncan, Emma Lou Rounsavell and Ruth Carey shows them holding their instruments at the Masonic Temple, Great Bend, on 7 Nov 1959. Another photo shows them and their accompanist, Mrs. George Tregallas, performing at the Parrish Hotel for a fundraiser for the

Community Concert Association's 1960-1961 season.

A variety of newspaper articles, programs and photos in the 1960s and 1970s include Ruth Duncan's name as a violinist in the College of the Desert Orchestra and the Desert Symphony, both conducted by Tom Mancini, which performed concerts with Red Skelton and Tennessee Ernie Ford and other celebrities. The programs also list Charles and Ruth Duncan as patrons of the orchestra.

A photo shows Ruth Duncan, violin; June Garcia, violin; Vicky Baldwin, viola; and Patrice Burgstahler, cello; all holding their instruments. The picture was taken for an opera in Nov 1969.

Charles Duncan, Jr.,'s 16 May 1970 diary entry says they drove from their home in Indian Wells to Long Beach so Ruth could attend her Woodrow Wilson High School class's 40th anniversary of her graduating class of 1930.

A Certificate of Award was given to Ruth Duncan of the Desert Symphony Orchestra for the 1972-1973 season on 11 Apr 1973.

Florence Johnson's 2 Jun 1973 diary entry states Ruth and Charles are going to Idyllwild in August for a month. They have a cute little Boston Terrier puppy "Happy", like Florence's dog Niki.

NOTES FROM CHARLES DUNCAN, JR.,'S DIARIES

Supplemented with daughter Lorraine's memories between sets of three asterisks

Florence, Ruth and I spent many happy hours all gathered around the sewing machine making clothes mostly for Ruth and me. We had both an electric sewing machine and a treadle sewing machine. Both Ruth and Florence were excellent seamstresses and I won some prizes on dresses I made at county fairs, too. Although we used a regular iron and ironing board for ironing clothes, we used a mangle iron in the basement to iron sheets, pillowcases, and dish towels. However, it wasn't used often. Charles' 31 May 1967 diary entry says he dismantled the mangle iron for junk.

Ruth sewed clothes for herself from the 1950s to 1980s. In 1969 Ruth, Florence and I together sewed two dresses for me. Ruth also made curtains in 1963. In 1966 and 1986 Ruth knitted a couple of sweaters. Ruth also attended silver and jewelry classes in Great Bend and made two or three pieces.

She knitted dresses for me and herself when I was a little girl and she continued knitting periodically for most of her life.

In 1974 Ruth started a needlepoint piece in August and completed two framed pieces and a pillow in 1976. In 1977 she completed a needlepoint pillow featuring Siamese cat, Sam, [for their two Siamese cats named Sam]. In 1978 and 1988 she completed another needlepoint work. In 1992 Ruth finished the needlepoint pillow of their pug "Koko". In 1993 Ruth made another needlepoint picture which was framed and in 1994 created a new needlepoint canvas.

Ruth enjoyed their swimming pools in the desert, but swam much less often as she got older.

In the 1950s and 1960s Ruth was a member of a violin trio, a violin quartet and played violin in a local orchestra. The trio frequently performed at several local churches and fraternal organizations, hotels, etc. In the early 1960s she also played violin solos at various social functions. In Aug 1967 she and her friend Ruth Carey played in the orchestra for three performances of *The Music Man*. In Jun 1968 she played in the orchestra for three performances of *Oklahoma*. She was also an active member of a music club, the Fort Zarah Home Demonstration Group, Eastern Star, the Dorcas Club, and the Parnassus Club. She was amazingly active despite her deafness, which was improved somewhat by the surgeries of the early 1960s.

Needlepoint by Ruth Duncan



Needlepoint by Ruth Duncan



**Charles and Ruth Duncan,
D. C. and Florence Johnson,
Christmas 1959**



**Ruth and her father
D. C. Johnson,
Christmas 1959**



The Dartmouth instrumental ensemble is caught in action by the Tribune photographer. In the back row, left to right, are Barbara Bryant, Chris Banks and Daniel Wirtz. In the front row are Sandra Grounds, Ruth Shadley and Patsy Banks. Lorraine Duncan is at the piano. Mrs. Charles Duvean is the director of the group.



Ruth Duncan directed and arranged all the music and Lorraine Duncan was the accompanist for the Dartmouth Instrumental Ensemble, Musical Division, Barton County 4-H Club Day in Hoisington, Kansas. *Great Bend Daily Tribune*, 7 Mar 1950 [Note Mrs. Charles Duncan's name was misspelled in the newspaper.]

Ruth and Lorraine at their house at Dartmouth, Jun 1950

Ruth Duncan at her house at Dartmouth, 15 Aug 1950





Daily Tribune Staff Photo

CONCERT ENTERTAINERS flick off a few tunes on their violins for the benefit of Mrs. J. B. Robinson (right) Community Concerts association drive chairman. A violin trio of Barton County women and their accompanist, who will provide entertainment at Monday night's Concert association dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Parrish hotel, practiced Sunday for the occasion. The drive starts Monday and will extend through this week. The 1960-61 season has a "hold" order on the Harry Belafonte Singers for next October. Violinists are, left to right: Mrs. Emma Lou Rounsavell, 2118 Jackson; Mrs. Francis Carey, rt. 2, Ellinwood; Mrs. Charles Duncan, rt. 3, Great Bend. Accompanist is Mrs. George Tregallas, 2811 Meadowlark. Headquarters for the concert membership drive will be at the Parrish hotel through this week.

Ruth Duncan's trio at Parrish Hotel, 1960-1961



**Charles and Ruth, Long Beach,
30 Jan 1963**



**Ruth and Charles Duncan on their boat
with Herb Diets, their friend and lawyer,
Lake Kanapolis, Kansas, 1961**



**Charles and Ruth Duncan, George Oliver, Mrs.
George Hinkley at George and Dorothy's house in
Vista, California, Jan 1963**



**Charles and Ruth Duncan, Florence Johnson,
Great Bend, Kansas, Mothers Day, 14 May 1967**



**Ruth Duncan, Doris Hall, Ruth Carey at
Larned Methodist Church,
Larned, Kansas, Dec 1967**



**Charles & Ruth Duncan,
Lorraine Schmidt at Gene
and Fernie Wagner's house,
Ellinwood, Kansas,
17 Mar 1969**



THOMAS and MARY MANCINI

Manicinis, Desert Symphony To Present 3rd Rotary Concert

Thomas E. Mancini will bring a rich heritage of musical background as well as a most distinguished history of performing excellence when he conducts the Desert Symphony Orchestra in the third annual Palm Springs Rotary Club Concert at the high school on Sunday, February 2, starting at 8:30 p.m.

In addition, he will bring his wife, Mary Mancini, who has enjoyed nearly as dazzling a career as her husband as she has a background of concert performing as well as being the West Coast accompanist for Sigmond Romberg.

Mancini brings to the podium 35 years of outstanding musical experience. He began his musical education at eight years of age and at eleven was active in professional orchestras in Santa Barbara, continuing his schooling and music at the high school level in Los Angeles.

It was at this point that the famous Julliard School of Mus-

ic in New York came into his life. He was a two-time winner of fellowship grants at Julliard and his final teacher was the famous Paul Kochanski.

It is a fact that the Julliard School is recognized all over the world as the foremost school for artists in the performing arts and it is affiliated for accreditation with Columbia University.

Before receiving his scholarship, Mancini had to win a regional examination by a "traveling jury" sent to key cities by Julliard. He was judged additionally by Julliard alumni as well as by local critics.

Then he had to win the "finals" at the New York City headquarters, and in later years Mancini became president of the Julliard Alumni Chapter in Los Angeles, and was a leader in organizing auditions for promising performers.

From such a training ground, Mancini then became an important part of the first violin sec-

tion of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, and for three years was a distinguished member of the Philharmonic and the Hollywood Bowl Symphony.

Subsequently, he entered the commercial field of records, radio, television and motion pictures and eventually joined the West Coast Division of the National Broadcasting Company in Hollywood as concertmaster and music director.

Among the "greats" with whom he has performed, from the extreme "poles" of classical and popular music, are Dr. Arthur Rodzinsky, Eugene Ormandy and Freddie Martin.

The Mancinis make up an outstanding musical family because Tom married the piano soloist with the NBC orchestra, and one of their wedding gifts from NBC was a violin and piano series of programs over the West Coast chain called "Mancini Moods."

Mrs. Mancini is a composer

Mrs. Mancini is a composer in both instrumental and vocal mediums and was an artist student of the great concert pianist, Olga Steeb, who founded the Olga Steeb School of Music in Los Angeles.

She also was a winner of Scholarships at Marymount College and the University of Southern California. Mary doubles as a top organist and teacher.

Their children, Robert, 15, and Catherine, 13, attend Palm Springs High School and Nellie N. Coffman Junior High respectively.

Tickets for all seats are priced at \$1 and the proceeds will be used for the Rotary Club's youth program which annually sends local students to Guatemala.

**1969 Desert Symphony
Concert with
Thomas Mancini
announced**



Ruth Duncan (extreme left) on violin in the Desert Symphony Orchestra with Tom Mancini, 31 Jan 1968

**Florence
Johnson, Ruth
and Charles
Duncan in
Indian Wells,
Aug 1969**



My mother was an excellent musician with a keen sense of pitch, even as the deafness worsened. I've been a capable musician all my life, with a good sense of pitch. I studied violin under Mr. Tilley also and did very well, and performed capably as an adult at university and beyond. Even so, it wasn't until I was playing piano duets with my mother in my 60s, that I realized just how sensitive her ears were. Even at an advanced age, she was differentiating fine points of tone and phrasing that I absolutely have never perceived. Our experience that day provided a real "aha!" moment for both of us. I suddenly realized why she was so frustrated with me as a child learning the piano. What she thought was my talking back to her, was actually my saying I was not hearing the differences she could hear. When I was a teenager, she broke more than a few yardsticks disciplining me for my insolence, not realizing she was hearing differences in tone that I couldn't hear. When I was in junior high school, my father taught me the clarinet, which she couldn't play and couldn't criticize.

While staying in Palm Springs in Jan and Feb 1967, Ruth took violin lessons from Mr. Mancini and also rehearsed with the Desert Symphony Orchestra which he conducted. She also practiced with a violin quartet. On 29 Jan 1967 Ruth saw Mamie Eisenhower. Ruth and Charles later became good friends of Tom Mancini and his wife Mary, an excellent pianist.

In 1968 Ruth played with the College of the Desert orchestra in some concerts. In summer 1969 Ruth played with an orchestra in Indio and practiced the violin at her home in 1969 and 1970 with June Garcia, a fellow violinist in the orchestra. In 1970 Ruth played in the orchestra which was shown on TV. She was also the concertmistress with the summer symphony and performed in a concert. In 1971 Ruth attended orchestra practices and performed in concerts. In Dec 1972 Charles and Ruth learned Tom Mancini had quit the college, but in 1973 Ruth played in the new college orchestra and a violin quartet. In March 1975 Ruth attended a few rehearsals with the Desert Symphony Orchestra and on 29 Oct 1992 she attended a rehearsal of Tom Mancini's orchestra.

On 14 Sep 1976 Ruth accompanied me during my audition [to play violin in orchestra] at Chapman College. We had practiced together a day or two earlier. From 1989-2000 Ruth frequently practiced piano duets at her home with her friend Madge Hedlund. In 2001 and 2002 Ruth practiced piano duets in her home with another friend, Sidney. In Aug 2002 Ruth and Sidney performed at a local retirement home. In 2003 Ruth and Sidney continued playing piano duets together. For Ruth's 88th birthday in 2000, I hired a local professional pianist to come to Ruth and Charles' house and play piano duets with her, which Charles filmed. She really enjoyed this and Charles and I enjoyed being the audience. In 2004 both of Ruth's piano duet partners had serious health problems, so they could no longer play the piano.

On 27 May 1967 Ruth and Charles bought her first organ, a Baldwin. Beginning in July and into 1968, Ruth took lessons from Mrs. Dorothy Miller in Larned, Kansas. In 1969 and 1976 Ruth took organ lessons in the desert. On 23 Jul 1975 Charles and Ruth bought a Conn Caprice spinet organ from Gene Roberson Studios for their beach home and she attended his organ classes that year. On 18 Nov 1975 they traded that organ for a new Conn 643 with an external speaker. Then on 26 Nov 1975 they traded her old Baldwin organ for a new one. She also took organ lessons from Gene Roberson in 1976, 1977 and 1982. In 1977 she also took organ lessons in the desert from Don Tosti, a recording star. In 1982 Charles and Ruth bought a new Hammond Elegante organ and a big speaker for their desert house and traded in their two old organs and speakers. Ruth took organ classes at Snow's in Santa Ana where they bought the organ. On 24 Mar 2004 Ruth and Charles sold her Hammond Elegante organ. She hated to see it go.

From 1969-1976 Ruth attended meetings of the Palm Desert Women's Club, of which she was a board member in 1973. [The 22 Mar 1972 issue of the *Daily News*, Indio, California, includes a photo of the newly elected directors of the Palm Desert Women's Club, including Mrs. Charles Duncan, vice president. The 18 Aug 1972 issue of the *Desert Sun* includes a similar photo and information that Mrs. Charles Duncan is first vice president.]



Ruth Duncan, nee Johnson, at the 40th Reunion of her class of 1930, Woodrow Wilson High School, Long Beach, California, May 16, 1970.
Ruth is 4th from the left in the front row.

WOODROW WILSON REUNION - MAY 16, 1970

Row 1

Ava Marie Boyer Kimball
Jeanne Lingenfelter Mattocks
Einaruth Cytron Berger
Ruth Johnson Duncan
Betty Netzt Royer
Vivian Mains Murray
Evelyn Murray Coltrin
Audrey Bennett Gilroy
Edna Rubien Campbell
Margaret Simpson Davis
Eloise Mussetter Damon
Dorace Nichols West
Lucille Nelson Lewis
Margaret Hutchison McLeod
Edythe Washburn Harvey
Barbara Freeland Siebert
Kee-wee-tah Webster Garside

*Ruth Hill
Haynes*

Row 2

Donald Harpole
Mary Hendry Galloway
Elmer Bruns
Jack Arnold
John M. Johnston
Orville A. Engstrom
George Mutter
Leslie Gebhard
Bob Shinn
Bob O. Long
Norman Noice
Gus Smith
Clifford Kohlhaas
Charles McMahan
Charles Conklin
Rudolf Ziesenhenn
Loita Hendricks Zeman
Marjorie Ogden Mays
Edna Hilton Norton
Frankie Hilton Reinbold
Claudine Self Grebner

Row 3

Josephine Chaloner Bodermann
Marjorie Shinn Nowell
Blanche Jones Tugwell
Margaret Ellis Combs
Alva Shaw Nealy
Dorothy Arvick Shaw
Louise Fisher Voigt
Lolita Hessenius Monk
Ardys Zook Hampton
Ruth Mason Galloway
Onalee Repp Arey
Marcella Norris Best
Verna Smith Hoff
Thelma Alles Crain
Estalene Overton Bunch
Madena Moomaw Popham
Virginia Cole Coppage
Milton Coppage
Max Bramble

Row 4

Mae Crowther Mather
Earl Lindley
Les Stucker
Albert A. Mutter
Ray Murray
Henry Van Dyke
Homer Hutton
Leslie McCurdy
Jack Mac Donald
John Charles Spence
William M. Martin
Verne Hughes
Everett W. Arey
Harry Lounsbury
Russell Best
Billy Coon

Spa Symphony In Concert For Rotary Friday

There will be a little bit of everything for everybody when Director-Conductor Thomas Mancini and the Desert Symphony Orchestra perform for the International Student Exchange Benefit Concert at Palm Springs High's auditorium Friday, Feb. 13, starting at 8:15 p.m.

The annual event is sponsored by the Palm Springs Rotary Club which uses the proceeds to maintain and further its students exchange program involving young people of the desert area and Guatemala in Central America.

The 66-piece orchestra will launch the evening of high musical entertainment with "Parade of the Charioteers" by Miklos Rozsa from the motion picture "Ben Hur."

Selections from the operetta "Gigi," by the desert's own Frederick Loewe, lyrics by A. J. Lerner, will follow and include:

"The Night They Invented Champagne," "Gigi," "Waltz at Maxim's," "I'm Glad I'm Not Young Anymore," "The Parisians," "Say a Prayer for Me Tonight," and "Thank Heaven for Little Girls."

Mrs. Thomas Mancini will be the piano soloist for "Concerto in F" by George Gershwin.

Intermission will be followed by selections by the Sun Bow Portrait, a singing group led by Jorge Alejandro of Palm Springs.

"A Better Day Will Be Here," "Orchid Tree Grace," and "Freedom Is Alive" will be presented as composed and arranged by Alejandro, conductor-pianist of the group.

Julie Kelly, Evelyn Green, Terri Green, Jacque Lake, vocalists; Phil Marci, vocalist-guitar; Ken Munday, bass guitar, and Howard Blumberg, drums, complete the group.

Sylvia Klemperer, Candace McConnell, Olise More, Beverly Tyler, Robin Williams. Clarinets — Joseph Pine, Kenneth Dahleen, Savino Jurado, Carl Piazza, Bill Welty, Dorothy Welty, Bob Williams. Baritone Horn — Verna Murphy.

French horns — Duane Slaughter, Chris Givens, Brian Pearson, Bruce Yegge.

Trumpets — LeRoy Burgener, James Heikes, Jill Hermanson, Robert Schnabel, Tony Windsor.

The Desert Sun 5

Thursday, February 12, 1970
Palm Springs, California

Mancini and the symphony orchestra close out the program with the first public presentation of "Symphony No. 1 in B Flat Minor" written by the late Mahlon Merrick.

The orchestra personnel is as follows:

Violins — Robert Pierre, Hobart Alter, Joseph Auslander, Sam Becker, Myra Bird, Harry Budner, Sally Di Paolo, Ruth Duncan, June Garcia, Laurence Gottfrey, Terri Hardy, Debbie Hartley, Ella Lu Kapp, Hal Kapp, Clemewell Mackenzie, Ella McMahan, Frederica Overton, Eleanor Roberts, Carolyn Smart.

Violas — Leila Barstow, Victoria Goodwin.

Cellos — Joseph Davis, Norman Merritt, Jack Schoengarth, Russell Schoengarth.

Basses — George Stephens, Alberta Aitchison, Mario Bolanos, Robert Cole.

Oboe — James McClellan.

Bassoon — Grant Wolf.

Librarian — Victoria Goodwin.

Flutes — James Patrone, Owen Dwight, Rodger Jones,

**Ruth Duncan performed under the
direction of conductor
Thomas E. Mancini
with the Desert Symphony Orchestra
13 Feb 1970 to benefit
Palm Spring High School's
Student Exchange program.**

Merry Christmas



Little lamb, gentle lamb,
Who are you?
Where did you come from
Out of the blue?

Little Lamb, gentle lamb,
Where have you been?
What foreign lands
Have you wandered in?

Little Lamb, gentle lamb,
Why come to me?
Is it because
I was first to see?

Little Lamb, gentle lamb,
Tell me true:
Is it because
I first knew you?

Little Lamb, gentle lamb,
What do you bring?
Is it a rare and beauteous thing,
Or is it the Song of Love you sing?
O gentle, little lamb!

Homer Simmons
copyright

George Schall

Homer Simmons' letter to Ruth Duncan
with his copyrighted piece from the back of
the card,
14 Dec 1970

The following is from the inside
of his card. Homer Simmons was Ruth
Duncan's piano teacher in Inglewood,
California, from 1942-1944.

*A Very Merry Christmas
And a Bright and Happy
New Year*

Homer Simmons

14 Dec. 1970

Dear Ruthaand Charles:

You certainly sound active which is the very best way you can be. We would love to see you, but Indian Wells might as well be N.Y. Between teaching, playing, George's church with a magnificent organ, 4 acres to watch (hippies are problematical) and take care of, a house, a cat, etc etc - you know I am sure. Im enclosing a series we started last autumn and to continue next year. The last two programmes listed may get changed to Bach. The more I play Bach the more magnificent it becomes, and the more totally satisfying. I can get totally lost with it for hours. I am glad you have some sort of orchestra where you can keep active. I hope the union does not take over and ruin something valuable. This has happened almost everywhere throughout the southland. The Music Centre and orchestra is in a bad way - attendance very poor. Prices are too high, programmes are leaving much to be desired, people just don't go, besides which many now refuse to go out after dark - the hippie problem is a real one. / Aside from all this I have been doing much writing, especially for organ, and have two or three large scale works which are very good. This just about covers the ground. You may know that we live at the pianos. / If you are ever down this way it would be a pleasure to see you, but I rather imagine this is as improbable as us getting out there. Anyhow...

All best wishes for the holidays.

Homer

COD Christmas Vespers Concert Slated Sunday

PALM DESERT — College of the Desert's annual Christmas Vespers Concert will be held Sunday (Dec. 13) at 8:15 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

Sponsored by the Music Department, the concert this year will feature two large choral works — "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" by Antonio Vivaldi and "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" by Ralph Vaughn Williams.

Soloists at the concert will be Mary McGee, soprano; Mary Rose, Mezzo-Soprano; Paula Feyerherm, contralto; And

Larry Campbell, bass. Campbell is a sophomore music major at COD who recently won the California State Collegiate Auditions of the California Association of Professional Music Teachers.

D. Stacy Carpenter, instructor of organ at COD, will accompany the vocalists during the concert. Dr. John Norman, chairman of the music department, will direct the choral groups.

The Vivaldi is a Baroque setting of the age old hymn of Christendom the "Glory Be to God on High" which starts with the words reported to have been sung to the shepherds in the fields at the first announcement of the birth of the Christ Child.

The Vaughn Williams presentation is a contemporary setting of the traditional English Carols "The Truth sent from Above," "Come All You Worthy Gentlemen," "On Christmas Night," and "There is a Fountain."

Members of the choir who

will perform Sunday are Bill Bangs, Richard Buresh, Gail Butler, Michael Cosgrove, Michelle Cosgrove, Mary Couvrette, Debby Drake, Gary Ellis, Paula Feyerherm, Valorie Fredrick, Ro Lynn Gardner.

Kenneth Garren, Valentina Glemby, Janice Goggins, Chris Hyatt, Brenda Jones, James Jones, Rebecca Killian, Larry Lawson, Lynn Luther, Marya Marcus, Mary McGee, David Millsap, Gary Moore, Helen Moore, Robert Pitts, Mary Rose.

Alberto Ruiz, Michael Salerno, Joel Salmons, Kenneth Shelton, Nancy Southern, Charles Sweeny, Cheryl Thomas, Fay Vickers, Mansur Ward, John Witalis, and Beth Yockey.

Orchestra members to perform are: Thomas Mancini, Elmer Young, Hobart Alter, Ruth Duncan, Clemwell Mackenzie, June Garcia, Leila Barstow, Neama Knitter, Michael Curtin, Alan Remele, Stacy Carpenter.

**Ruth Duncan
performed in the
College of the
Desert's annual
Christmas
Vespers Concert,
Palm Springs,
13 Dec 1970**

**Ruth Duncan with her violin,
Indian Wells,
2 Jan 1971**



RUTH DUNCAN, Violin
... Indian Wells

The following three pages show an Apr 1971 article "The Desert Symphony" which announced the May 7th West Coast premiere of Red Skelton's music with a new supporting Symphony Association. Ruth Duncan played violin in this big event in Palm Springs and was in his album cover photo.

THE DESERT SYMPHONY

By PAT PHILLIPS OLIVER

*West Coast premiere
of Red Skelton's
music slated for
May 7 under
auspices of new
supporting
Symphony
Association*



Conductor Tom Mancini and his pianist wife, Mary, score brilliant Desert Symphony success.

For seven years, the Coachella Valley has been immensely enriched by a variety of Desert Symphony concerts presented by volunteer instrumentalists under the direction of Thomas E. Mancini, former NBC music director and the founder of Desert Symphony Orchestra.

The concerts have been totally a work of love on the part of Mancini, his wife, Mary — who is the orchestra's pianist — and the entire musical group.

The reciprocal and much-needed support of a sponsoring organization has been a long time in arriving, but the newly organized Desert Symphony Association, Inc., is off to a soaring start in its efforts to assist the orchestra's cultural endeavors in all possible ways.

The first concert in the subscription series planned by the association not only was a complete sell-out but also comprised additional "firsts" which surely would be the envy of any orchestral group in the nation. Prime figures in the musical coup were two famed tunesmiths,

Billy Vaughn and Jack Fascinato, both residents of Palm Springs, whose "second homes" now are Beverly Hills.

Vaughn's tone poem, "Song of the West," was given its first symphonic presentation by Desert Symphony in the January concert at College of the Desert. The artist-composer-arranger, who was present for the concert, is the recipient of several gold records and a platinum one. His compositions and arrangements have sold more than 20 million recordings, and he has received awards from Brazil, Holland, Indonesia, and South Africa, as well as from his own country.

Fascinato, longtime arranger and conductor for Tennessee Ernie Ford, created specifically for Desert Symphony a symphonic orchestral background for C.P.E. Bach's *Solfeggietto No. 2*, featuring Mary Mancini as the brilliant piano soloist. Fascinato, who was unable to attend the concert due to the production schedule for another Tennessee Ernie Ford TV special, has arranged more than 275 recordings for Ford, among them

"Sixteen Tons" which has sold more than three million records.

The second concert in the series is certain to receive nationwide acclaim. Scheduled for May 7, the symphony program will present Red Skelton's Music for Orchestra. While Skelton's music has been previously performed and has been recorded in London, the Desert Symphony performance constitutes the West Coast premiere of the Americana-type compositions, scoring still another "first" for the orchestra — and the event will be the organization's first "Symphony under the Stars." The fields of Eldorado Polo Club will be the setting, an invitational reception in the clubhouse to follow the concert.

Skelton, his charming wife, Georgia, and their daughter, Valerie, have been desert residents for many years. Among noted personalities of the music world who have made reservations for the performance of Skelton's works is composer Frederick Loewe, who also chose Palm Springs as a permanent home several

(continued)



Red Skelton, currently on a performance tour of the Midwest, will return to the desert to attend the West Coast premiere of his orchestral compositions by Desert Symphony Orchestra.



Conductor Tom Mancini and his wife, Mary, who is the Desert Symphony's pianist, salute Hobart Alter (left), concertmaster, after recent concert.



Don Stevning, owner of Desert Southwest Art Gallery, & Norma Tummell greet guests at gallery reception following concert which featured Billy Vaughn, Jack Fascinato compositions.

DESERT SYMPHONY *(continued)*

years ago. Loewe's phenomenal Broadway and motion picture successes include "My Fair Lady."

Desert Symphony was founded in 1964 by Mancini, who, after 14 years as music director and conductor for NBC in Hollywood, where Mary also was a member of the network's music staff, chose to leave the Hollywood scene and accept a post as instructor of music at College of the Desert.

The symphony orchestra is part of the adult education program of the junior college. From a small beginning, its membership now totals 35. The instrumentalists range in age from ten to eighty years. Some are retired professional musicians; others are students at the college or at Coachella Valley schools, and still others are business people who supply their own instruments and enjoy music as an avocation.

In addition to his work with NBC, Mancini has performed as first violinist with numerous metropolitan symphonies,

including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and has been a featured soloist with some of the nation's renowned dance bands.

Mary Mancini, a concert pianist, was staff pianist for NBC for many years and was accompanist for Sigmund Romberg. When the Mancinis were married, the National Broadcasting Company's wedding gift to them was a television show of their own, the popular "Mancini Moods."

The new Desert Symphony Association came into being through the Women's Division of the Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce. In 1970, when the Women's Division was formed, the directors were asked to present ideas for community projects. Director Evelyn R. Young, a writer for the Indio *Daily News*, asked for support of the community orchestra, which needed funds and local support in order to continue. The women voted in agreement.

During that summer, Mrs. Young visited the American Symphony League in Vienna, Virginia, for a briefing on the

technicalities of forming an association to maintain and support Desert Symphony and its offspring, the Youth Symphony, whose members are music students throughout Coachella Valley. The Youth Symphony also was founded and is directed by Mancini.

With the aid of retired Brig. Gen. Kenwood B. Rohrer, a Palm Desert attorney, the Desert Symphony Association was incorporated and received both state and federal tax-deductible status. Rohrer is vice president of the non-profit corporation. Mrs. Young is founder-president.

Desert dwellers immediately came to the association with offers of aid, among them Vaughn and Fascinato. The public's enthusiastic response to the subscription series of concerts brought outstanding success to the first presentation.

The association rented tuxedos for the male members of the orchestra, paid for the transportation of the harp, repaired an oboe, hired electricians and sound men. The orchestra received a standing



Evelyn Young (left), founder-president of Desert Symphony Assn., & Joan Wyman, founder of Women's Division, Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce, which organized Assn.



Billy Vaughn attended Desert Symphony concert, in which his tone poem, "Song of the West," was given its 1st symphonic presentation by the orchestra.



Jack Fascinato, longtime arranger & conductor for Tennessee Ernie Ford, offers kudos to Mary Mancini, piano soloist for his orchestral arrangement of C.P.E. Bach's Solfeggietto No. 2, for the Desert Symphony.

ovation for having presented a first-class performance — in spite of several harrowing problems.

Bill Lee, for instance, who was to have been the featured baritone soloist, was unable to appear because of the traffic death of his son only the day before the concert. Richard Kite, former singer with the Spike Jones band and now a Palm Desert resident, stepped in at the last minute and ably took on the agenda which had been orchestrated for Lee. Original sound track arrangements of tunes from Rogers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" and "Sound of Music" had been forwarded from 20th Century Fox by Lee, who had sung the selections in the films, and Kite performed admirably.

In addition to his motion picture career, Bill Lee has made numerous appearances in the Hollywood Bowl and on other concert stages as well as in radio and television shows, and he has been soloist with Norman Luboff, David Rose,

Alfred Newman, Johnny Mann and Paul Weston. He had planned to contribute his time and talent for the benefit of Desert Symphony. This, as well as the film studio's generosity in loaning the original scores, is another indication of the instantaneous support that the symphony association is attracting. Funds would not have been available for such arrangements or for those of Fascinato and Vaughn.

A toast to the entire musical evening was raised by guests who gathered at a black-tie reception held at Desert Southwest Art Gallery following the concert.

With the proceeds obtained from the sale of the first subscription series, the association has given scholarships to two College of the Desert students, Ken Futterer and Beverly Tyler, both of Palm Springs, who will "earn as they learn" to be librarians for the symphony, as assistants to librarian Lynn Luther.

An auxiliary is being formed for the purpose of planning social events which will help to fund the association and the

orchestra and provide more scholarships for young instrumentalists. One of the goals of the association is eventually to provide an amphitheater or concert hall for the proper presentation of fine music in the desert area.

Association directors assisting Mrs. Young and Brig. Gen. Rohrer are Juanita Brooks, secretary; Estelle J. Richter, treasurer; Jane Richey, membership chairman.

Red Skelton's current tour of engagements in the Midwest culminates just prior to the May 7 Desert Symphony performance of his music, and the Skeltons will be present at the premiere. The compositions will be recorded, and Red will be photographed with the orchestra in a desert setting for a colorful album cover.

The beloved and generous gentleman of show business has asked that all proceeds from album sales benefit the Desert Symphony Association in its inspired endeavors to extend that universal language of mankind — music. □

**L. to R., across background and foreground:
Ruth Duncan, Joe Auslander,
Red Skelton,
Hobie Alter, Elmer Young,
Mary & Tom Mancini,
7 May 1971**



Ruth Duncan in orange dress on right side. This was taken for an Album Cover for Tom Mancini & Red Skelton with the Desert Symphony, 8 May 1971

6 The Desert Sun

Saturday, May 15, 1971
Palm Springs, California

DESERT VIGNETTES

Alters Home For Concert

By EVELYANNE
Sun Correspondent

Robert Alter, first violinist and concert-master of Desert Symphony orchestra, returned to the desert from a gadabout tour of the Hawaiian Islands in time to share the excitement of the syphony's performance "Under the Stars."

"THE WEATHER didn't improve the pitch of our instruments, but, with a million to one odds against it, who would ever figure rain on the evening of the concert?" reasoned "Hobie."

A FORMER citrus grower, he and his wife live in Palm Springs in semi-retirement.

When they aren't traveling their time is filled with music, investments, and shuffleboard.

Laguna Beach is their second home and it is there that their son makes catamarans and surf boards for which he's known as "The King."

"My wife is a marvelous traveling companion, and a great house-wife!" beamed Hobie as he started to climb the sun-dappled sand-dunes to join other members of Desert Symphony orchestra... They were being photographed in full regalia with Red Skelton and the Thomas E. Mancinis, making record album covers and promotional pictures.

CRACKING JOKES with the group, "Red" was as pleasant at 10 a.m. as he'd been the night before at the concert when he was busy

signing dozens of autographs.

RED'S DOG, NICOLE, seemed as unimpressed by her master's fame as by the magnificent maroon Rolls Royce into which "Red" was patiently trying to inveigle her.

IN HIS MOST spectacular TV special, however, Skelton never performed before a more brilliant backdrop than the one the "morning after" composed of azure skies, snow-capped mountains and golden dunes.

Desert Symphony orchestra members patiently posed for over an hour in the sparkling sunlight.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE RAIN-DRENCHED evening prior didn't deter desert music enthusiasts from braving the elements, nor did the rain detract from the star quality of the event.

Actually it added dimension and warmth to the entire performance, as plastic coverings and umbrellas were shared before the audience was transferred to COD.

After the group reassembled at COD, Skelton joked, "This is the first time I've played to a portable audience!"

THERE WERE NONE who failed to appreciate Tom Mancini's excellent conducting; Mary Mancini's pianistic virtuosity...fortunately not affected by her recent automobile accident...and the efforts of president Evelyn Young and the many

organizations who assisted in presenting the evening's event.

Skelton's multi-faceted talents, wit, charm, graciousness and humility made the evening!

SOME OF THOSE braving the elements were the Graham Gaynors, Mrs. Harold C. Carpenter, the Fred Warings, the Harry Williams and her son, the Arthur Werners, Dr. Frederick Loewe, Mrs. Skelton's parents, Dr. Roy F. Hudson, Jane Richey, E. Gertrude Hodgens, Lily Heffernan, Mrs. Kermit Wilson, Alyce Walker, the Charles Berenys, the George F. Andersons, the Milton Heymans, the Charles Fields, Mrs. Jack Cowan, Mrs. William Forrest, Pamela Forrest and hundreds more.

Article about the day of the photo shoot for the album cover on previous page and the concert the night before.

Local concert-master and first violinist Robert "Hobie" Alter mentions his son who is famous for making catamarans and surfboards. [Hobie Alter of Hobie.com]



The
Jones
GALLERY

117 - D NO. PALM CANYON

Telephone:
325-9513

On the Mountain Side of
Desert Inn Fashion Plaza



**Ruth Duncan
and her
dog Happy,
Indian Wells
May 1973**

DAILY NEWS, Indio, California Wednesday, March 22, 1972

— — — 5



PALM DESERT WOMAN'S CLUB — Newly elected directors of the Palm Desert Woman's Club pose for their photo after being elected unanimously at the club's St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the Indian Wells Hotel. Left to right are Mrs. Roy Mallery, recording secretary; Mrs.

Edward Benson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. E. R. Painter, president; Mrs. Charles Duncan, vice president; Mrs. James Taylor, treasurer, and Mrs. William M. Stuart, second vice president.

Staff Photo

Mrs. Charles Duncan (Ruth is 4th from left) with Palm Desert Woman's Club officers, March 1972

Of Interest to
WOMEN
Patricia Anderson, Woman's Editor

12 The Desert Sun **Wednesday, May 17, 1972**
Palm Springs, California

P.D. Installation Slated Tomorrow

PALM DESERT — Indian Wells Hotel will be the setting for the installation luncheon of Palm Desert Woman's Club, 12:30 p.m., tomorrow.

Installing officer will be Ann Carpenter, known for her interesting and unique presentations.

MRS. E.R. PAINTER will receive the president's gavel from Mrs. Kernon Oster "who made the past season of the club so enjoyable," it was reported. Mrs. Oster, as junior past president, will act as advisor next year.

Other officers are: Mrs. Charles Duncan, first vice-president; Mrs. William Stuart, second vice-president; Mrs. Roy Mallery, recording secretary; Mrs. James Taylor, treasurer, and Mrs. Edward Benson, corresponding secretary.

PRESIDENT OSTER initiated the Spring "Get Acquainted" Tea held recently at the home of Mrs. Phillip McClay.

"She suggested we wear long afternoon gowns and it made a beautiful occasion for all of the members," said Mrs. McClay.

ON THE THURSDAY program arranged by Mrs. Harriot Seifferle, Richard Kite will present a group of songs accompanied by Hal Kapp.

As Dick Baldwin, Kite sang professionally during the "Big Band" era with Charley Barnet, Anson Weeks, Charley Spivak, Spike Jones and others.

Kapp is well known for his work with Coachella Valley Community Concerts, for which he recently received a plaque of appreciation.

Mrs. Charles Duncan was installed as first vice president of the Palm Desert Woman's Club, reported in the 17 May 1972 issue of *The Desert Sun*.



Three Generations
Florence Johnson, Ruth Duncan, Lorraine Schmidt
in Indian Wells. Film developed Jan 1973



Charles Duncan, Florence Johnson, and Ruth Duncan
Film developed Jan 1973

16 — THE DESERT SUN, Friday, August 18, 1972



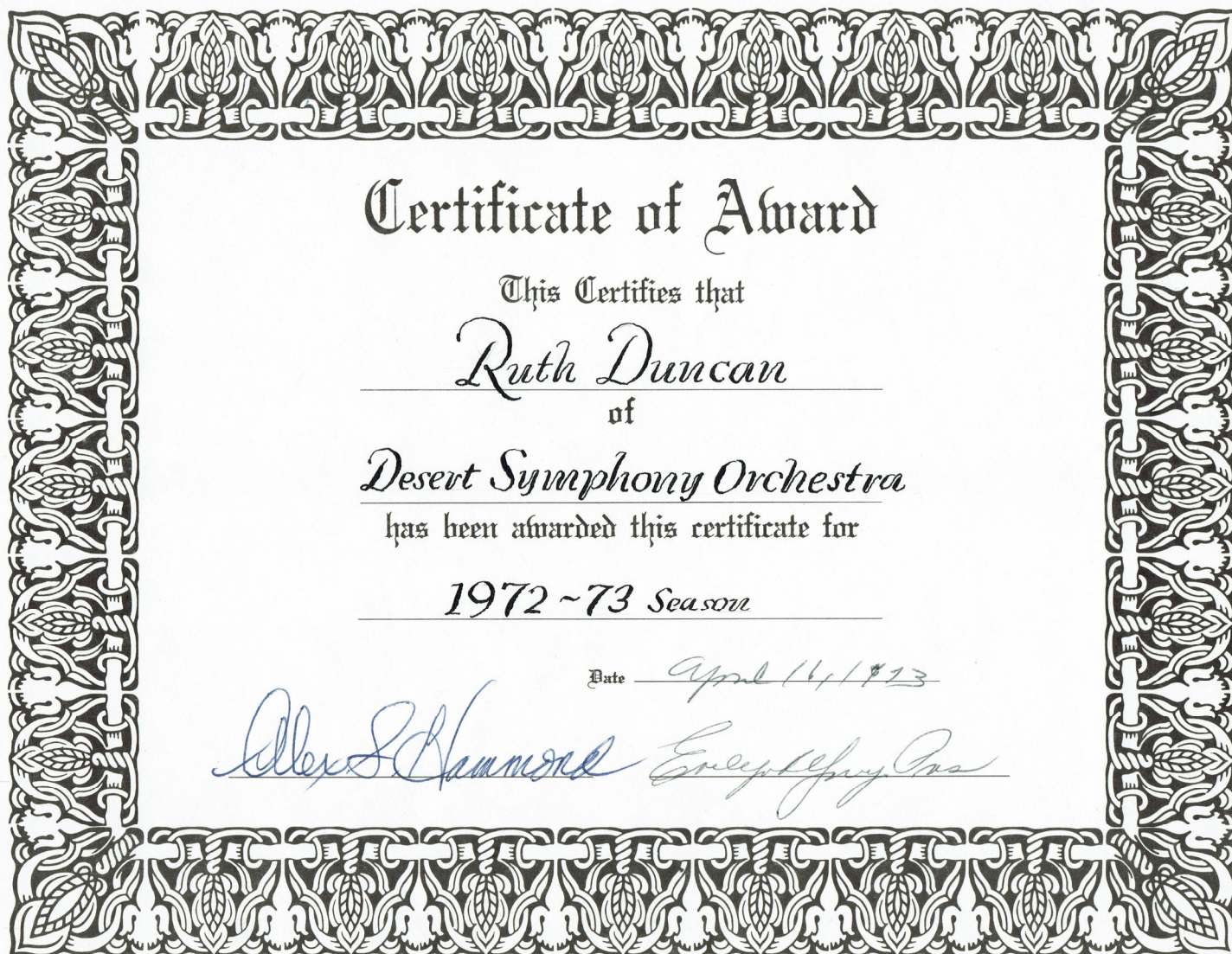
READY TO SERVE! — Smiling in anticipation of the exciting programs planned for the coming season are 1972-73 officers of the Palm Desert Woman's Club, from left, Mrs. Roy W. Mallery, recording secretary; Mrs. William

M. Stuart, second vice-president; Mrs. E.R. Painter, president; Mrs. Charles Duncan, first vice-president, and Mrs. Edward L. Benson, corresponding secretary.

Mrs. Charles Duncan was the 1972-73 First Vice President of the Palm Desert Woman's Club



Quartet College of the Desert Opera in Nov 1969
Ruth Duncan, violin; June Garcia. Violin; Vicky Baldwin, viola; Patrice Burgstahler, cello.



Ruth Duncan's Desert Symphony Orchestra certificate of award for the 1972-73 season



Happy,
Charles and Ruth Duncan's dog,
Jul 1974

Ruth was on the board of the Opera Guild in 1972 and 1973 and a member through 1977. She was also a member of a piano club in 2001 and 2002 in the desert.

In 2006 Ruth looked for a good piano duet partner, but didn't find one. I visited her for several days every month and sometimes with a friend, who often did several "handyman" chores. Early that year when Ruth and I were eating at Le St. Germaine's, the former president Gerald Ford and his wife Betty came in. He looked frail and then later died on 26 Dec. Ruth went to a couple of concerts with friends or me and fairly frequently had meals and shopping with friends. Ruth took care of a friend's two cats for a few days several times that year. She enjoyed that, except for one cat that bit her sometimes. Ruth had trouble balancing her checkbook which was frustrating. She was also depressed and in tears because her hearing was so bad even with brand-new hearing aids. It was especially hard for her to hear on the phone. In July, I called her about the prospect of her living in a retirement home, but she wrote that it was very unappealing. She wrote of several boring days. Her ophthalmologist said she had 20-20 vision and no macular degeneration [but she was nearly blind with it four years later]. Late in the year Ruth and I ate at Le St. Germaine and saw former California governor Gray Davis there. I did lots of her bookkeeping in 2005 and 2006.

In 2007, I visited her for several days every month, sometimes with my friend who did "handyman" chores. In late April she wrote she hates being alone. In late December my friend and I picked her up from the desert and drove her to Orange County to see the Radio City Rockettes at Segerstrom Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa which she enjoyed, although she was tired. She was very depressed and worried about being a burden on me. She had meals with friends every week or so, but several of them were very sick and soon died. I did lots of her bookkeeping that year. She continued to have a cleaning lady do everything but dust, which Ruth preferred to do as she had always done.

In Jan 2008 Ruth's ophthalmologist said her eyes were remarkable, but her right eye was not too good and the glaucoma was under control. I came to stay for several days every month. In February I called and told her I was planning a trip to Europe soon for a good friend's wedding and Ruth was so depressed. [She worried that I could be killed in a plane crash, and there would be no one to care for her.] Ruth cat-sat a few times. In mid-July my friend and I drove her to look at retirement homes and she arranged to move to Inn at the Park, a large retirement home in Irvine ten miles from me. She listed her house for sale and moved there in late December. She was still very upset about her problems, not wanting to move away from her friends and community, but not wanting to live alone and so far from me. Her deafness prevented much contact or even phone calls with friends. My friend and I helped hang her pictures, get unpacked and settled.

In early Jan 2009 I drove Ruth to the desert to pack more things and have meals out with her friends. In late January my friend and I drove to the desert to get more of her things. She met a lady at Inn at the Park who had an apartment opposite hers and was a very good pianist. They played duets together a few times. [However, she was nearly blind and not a great duet partner. Another lady who lived next-door had recently moved from either Palm Desert or Indian Wells, and she and Ruth had many things in common to talk about.] Ruth went to many recitals, movies, lectures and cocktail parties at her new residence. My friend and I went to her desert home several times between mid-Mar and early Jul to retrieve more of her things. Her new ophthalmologist said her eyes were not good as she had macular degeneration for which there was no cure. Her glaucoma was also worse. She was not happy with some of the employees at her residence, especially the aides who gave her the wrong medicine or ran out of her prescriptions. [I was also furious and got the company to compensate with one month's free rent.] She did not get along with some of the residents and often felt isolated and ignored because she could not hear what was being said. She played the piano in the lobby and got compliments which she appreciated. On 22 Apr (Charles' birthday) I drove Ruth to Vista to visit with an old friend, Dorothy Oliver. They had a very good time.

Two residents played piano duets with Ruth, but both had certain drawbacks. I also played piano duets

with her. In May her blood pressure was very high and she was given exercises to do along with medicine. The last day Ruth wrote in her diary was 20 Jul 2009. [Most of the time she was at Inn at the Park she was depressed because she was ill a lot, very fatigued, nearly blind and profoundly deaf, so there was not much to be happy about. She ate less and less for weeks or months before she died so that she was skin and bones when she died. I was the only one she could hear and understand even without her hearing aids and I loved her very much and was so sad to see her suffer so much in the last several years of her life, just as I was so sad to see my father suffer so much in the last ten years or so of his life. I had hired a private nurse to take care of Ruth for several months before her death and the nurse called me in the early morning of 27 Sep 2010 to tell me she passed. My friend and I got there when she was still warm. I had seen her the day before, as I recall.]

*****End of Diary Notes*****

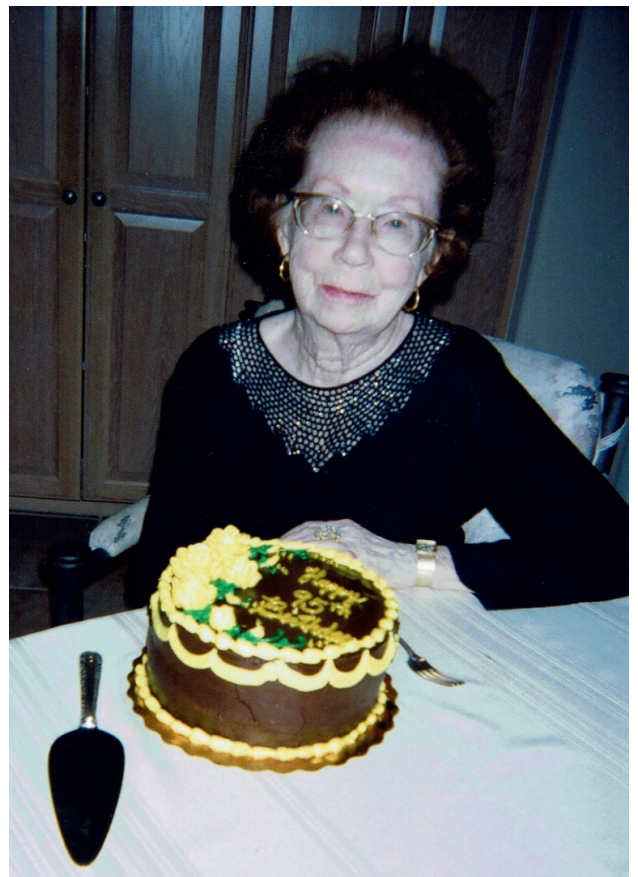
Ruth Lorraine Duncan's death certificate and affidavit to amend a record shows her birth on 18 Dec 1912 in Kansas. She was a widow and died at age 97 at 8:30 a.m. on 27 Sep 2010 at her residence at Inn at the Park/Hospice, 10 Marquette, Apt. #118, Irvine, Orange County, California. She was a homemaker in her own home and had some college. She died of cardiac arrest of one minute, electrolyte imbalance of 1 week, dehydration of 1 week, and chronic renal failure of 6 months. Her parents are DeWitt Clinton Johnson, born in Illinois, and Florence M. Lash, born in Iowa. Lorraine Schmidt, daughter, of 1501 Cloyden Road, Santa Ana, California, was the informant. The final disposition of her body on 30 Sep 2010 was TR/BU (transit out of state for burial) and her burial was in the Lakin-Comanche Cemetery, 501 East D Street, Ellinwood, Kansas.

The 30 Sep 2010 issue of the *Great Bend Tribune* and the 8 Oct 2010 issue of the *Ellinwood Leader* show Ruth Lorraine Duncan's obituary, which shows she was born on 18 Dec 1912 in Ellinwood, the daughter of Florence M. and DeWitt Johnson. She died on 27 Sep 2010 in Irvine, California. She married Charles Duncan, Jr., on 12 Jun 1937 in Long Beach, California. He died on 18 Nov 2005. She was a homemaker and piano teacher, formerly of Ellinwood, Dartmouth, and Great Bend, [Kansas,] and Long Beach and Indian Wells, California. She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and Long Beach Junior College in California. She was a violinist with the Desert Symphony Orchestra. She is survived by daughter Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, California. The funeral was held at the Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood. Burial was to be at Lakin-Comanche Cemetery.

Memorials were to be sent to the Humane Society of the United States. The 30 Sep 2010 issue of *The Hutchinson News* included a shorter version of the above.

Ruth's funeral book shows her burial on 2 Oct 2010 in the Lakin-Comanche Dist. Cemetery in Ellinwood.

A friend and I flew to Kansas to attend Ruth's funeral which was very lightly attended as she had not lived there for many years. A good friend Lorene Schartz treated us to lunch at their house after the funeral and graveside service which was conducted by a local bishop of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.



Ruth Lorraine Duncan's funeral card for her 2 Oct 2010 funeral service

Presiding Bishop

Gregory Perez

Pianist

Brother John Berkheimer

Welcome

Bishop Perez

Opening Hymn

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

Invocation

Bishop Perez

Euology Read by

Dale Johnson

"The Plan of Happiness"

Presented by Brother John Berkheimer

Open Invitation to Share Memories of

Ruth Duncan

Closing Remarks

Bishop Perez

Benediction by Invitation

Postlude Music Played by

Brother John Berkheimer

"Abide With Me"

"Be Still, My Soul"

"Nearer, My God to Thee"

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Lorraine Duncan

BORN

December 18, 1912

Ellinwood, Kansas

DEPARTED

September 27, 2010

Irvine, California

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD

2:00 p.m. Saturday, October 2, 2010

Kimble Funeral Chapel

Ellinwood, Kansas

MINISTER OFFICIATING

Bishop Greg Perez

INTERMENT

Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery

Ellinwood, Kansas

Kimble Funeral Home
Ellinwood, Kansas

Ruth Lorraine Duncan — 1912-2010

IRVINE, Calif. — Ruth Lorraine Duncan, 97, died Sept. 27 at Irvine, Calif. She was born Dec. 18, 1912 at Ellinwood, the daughter of Florence M. and DeWitt Johnson. She married Charles Duncan, Jr. on June 12, 1937 in Long Beach, Calif. He died Nov. 18, 2005.

She was a homemaker and piano teacher, formerly of Ellinwood, Dartmouth, Great Bend, and Long Beach and Indian Wells, Calif. She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and Long Beach Junior College in California. She was a violinist with the Desert Symphony Orchestra.

She is survived by daugh-

ter Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, Calif.

The service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Kimble Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood. The officiant will be Bishop Greg Perez. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. on Friday. Burial will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery. Memorials can be made to the Humane Society of America.

Funeral arrangements provided by

Kimble Inc. Funeral Home

113 North Main

Ellinwood, KS 67526

*Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Sept. 29,
2010*

**Ruth Lorraine Duncan's obituary
in California newspapers**

In Memory Of

RUTH LORRAINE DUNCAN

Date of Birth

December 18, 1912

Ellinwood, Kansas

Place

Date of Death

September 27, 2010

Irvine, California

Place

Age

97	9	9
Years	Months	Days

Services

Kimble Funeral Chapel

Held at

Ellinwood, Kansas

2:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 2, 2010

Hour

Date

Officiating Clergy

Bishop Greg Perez

Organizations Attending

Family Record

RUTH LORRAINE JOHNSON DUNCAN

Deceased

Florence M. Johnson

Mother

Dewitt Johnson

Father

Charles Duncan, Jr.

Married to

Children

Lorraine

Four Pages from

Ruth Duncan's Funeral Book, 2 Oct 2010

Final Resting Place

Ceremonies by

Bishop Greg Perez

Interment in

Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery

Name of Cemetery or Crematorium

Grave

Section

Block

Lot

Ellinwood

City

Barton

County

Kansas

State

Laid to Rest

2:00 p.m. Saturday, October 2, 2010

Hour-Day-Month-Year

Relatives and Friends

Gilbert & Lorene Schartz
 Kim Todd & Katie Morgenstern
 Richard & Linda Kimple
 Mr. & Mrs. Gale Leig
 Elda Milner
 Elaine Wendel
 Joseph Mistry
 Shirley L. Smith
 John & Mary Jo Berthimer
 Elinor Hess
 DENNIS & DARLA CARSON
 Gregory S. Pacy
 Margaret Hechle Stumel
 Lorraine Schmidt
 Bob Johnson

Pages and Inserts
 from

Ruth Duncan's
 Funeral Book,
 2 Oct 2010

Sympathy cards
 on right and
 Memorials in
 lower left

Names in pencil sent email

People I rec'd. sympathy cards from in re:
 Ruth Duncan's death 9/27/10

Charlie John
 Bill & Fern Messing (my neighbors)
 Ken & Claudia Horn ("")
 Betty Neider } church friends
 Betty Thompson }
 Buzz Marsh
 Michele Brooks - church friend
 Rosemary & Milo Siever - Dale's friends
 Carolyn Dennis Thompson (GBHS classmate)
 Joe Wirtz
 Gilbert & Lorene Schartz
 Laverne Harris - seafarer & church friend
 Jo Bay
 Nancy Waterhouse
 Shirley & Lynn Horn
 Dana & Cheryl Martin
 Michael Cosgrove - mother's atty.
 Mike & Florence Adams - work friend
 Bob Stauffer - seafarer
 Lisa Lockhart - church friend
 Judy (Bertrude M.) Eckart - seafarer
 Marilyn Zornath - "
 Barbara Loveland
 Joanna Mapes - seafarer
 Dixie Hay - church friends
 Theresa Newman - "
 Louis Jacobson - seafarer
 Kathy Clark - "
 Hoge & Wanda Bostick - "
 Buzz Marsh - "
 Carol Pike - church friend
 Robert Dorian (Dorian) - mother's hairdresser
 38241 Paterson Rd., Rancho Mirage, CA 92270



Richard F. Kimple
 Funeral Director

Melvin Ringering
 Assistant Funeral Director

(620)564-2300
 Fax (620)564-2301

Email: kimple@geopack.com

RUTH LORRAINE DUNCAN

Memorials given to Humane Society of the United States:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ Joe Wirtz
675 E. Barton County Rd., Great Bend, KS 67530 | ✓ Todd, Kim & Katie Morgenstern
310 N. Fritz, Ellinwood, KS 67526 |
| ✓ Lawrence & Elinor (Bryant)
607 N. Bismark, Ellinwood, KS 67526 | |
| Plants & Flowers:
Name of Donor: | Description: |
| ✓ Kay & Jerry, Ken & Barb, Jim & Clenece | Basket - Lavendar carnations, pink hydrangea, purple statice, baby's breath |
| ✓ Lorene Lorraine & Gilbert Schartz & Todd & Kim & Katie Morgenstern | Vase - Pink roses, pink carnations, pink snaps & red gerbera in green vase with bow |
| ✓ Leota Klingberg & Caryl & Bill Lyons | Basket - Protea, sunflowers, yellow lillies & daisies & spider mums |
| Great Bend High School Class of 1956
c/o Carol Arnall
✓ Connie Pryor
✓ Gary & Marla Etling | Red rose bud vase

Arrangement - Orange roses, red carnations, Viking daisies w/taupe bow in gold urn |

Martha Branderburg
 Bill Savings
 Dorothy Lumberg
 Lois & Willard Zoller - Inn at the Park friend
 Lisa & Walter Smith
 Dorothy L. Hahn - Mother's neighbor in Indian Wells
 Grace Barker - Inn at the Park friend
 Cora Halling, Susan Bragg, Nancy Williams, Kathy, Sylvia - Inn at the Park friends
 Shirley Mergil - " " " "
 Helen & Dennis Martin, P.O. Box 12735, Palm Desert, CA 92255
 (Mother's friends in desert)
 George & Frances Fregallas - Mother's St. Rd. friends
 Beal (Jerry) & Leslie Natgley, 52273 Avenida Villa, La Jolla, CA 92033 - Mother's garden
 Ray Arta, 18160 Camara Way, Riverside 92508
 Dorothy Oliver, 1010 E. Bolivar Dr., Apt. 129, Vista, CA 92084
 (Mother's Long Beach friend)
 Page & Shasta Jacoby - Mother's Indian Wells friends
 Martha Mc Eutcheon, 18655 W. Bernardo Dr., Apt. 436 San Diego CA 92127-3020 - Mother's desert friend
 Jim & Michele Brooks - church friends
 Judy & Joe Essing - GBHS classmate
 Betty Glauser
 Family History Center stuff
 Danell & Carol Wright - church friends
 Marion Fenn
 Ray Barry
 Keith & Jane Johnson - Dale's brother & his wife
 David, Donna, Jackie, Phillip & Danielle Johnson - Dale's son & family
 Leota Klingberg
 Carol Ann & Bill Lyons
 Barbara & Ken Eoh
 Jim & Clevea Wells
 Jerry & Ray Boyle
 Lorraine & Gilbert Schartz & Kim & Todd & Katie Morgenstern
 Gary & Marla Etling
 GBHS Class of 1956

Ruth Lorraine Duncan — 1912-2010

IRVINE, Calif. — Ruth Lorraine Duncan, 97, died Sept. 27 at Irvine, Calif. She was born Dec. 18, 1912 at Ellinwood, the daughter of Florence M. and DeWitt Johnson. She married Charles Duncan, Jr. on June 12, 1937 in Long Beach, Calif. He died Nov. 18, 2005.

She was a homemaker and piano teacher, formerly of Ellinwood, Dartmouth, Great Bend, and Long Beach and Indian Wells, Calif. She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and Long Beach Junior College in California. She was a violinist with the Desert Symphony Orchestra.

She is survived by daughter

ter Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, Calif.

The service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood. The officiant will be Bishop Greg Perez. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. on Friday. Burial will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery. Memorials can be made to the Humane Society of America.

Funeral arrangements provided by

Kimple Inc. Funeral Home

113 North Main

Ellinwood, KS 67526

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Sept. 29, 2010

Ruth L. Duncan

ELLINWOOD — Ruth L. Duncan, 97, died Sept. 27, 2010, at Irvine, Calif. She was born Dec. 18, 1912, at Ellinwood, to DeWitt and Florence M. Johnson. She was a longtime California resident.

She married Charles Duncan Jr. June 12, 1937. He died Nov. 18, 2005. She is survived by a daughter, Lorraine Schmidt of Santa Ana, Calif.

Funeral is 2 p.m. Saturday at Kimple Funeral Chapel, Ellinwood.

Family will receive friends 7 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral chapel.

Burial at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood. Memorials to Humane Society of America.

Kansas Obituaries for Ruth Lorraine Duncan

Upper Left: 30 Sep 2010
Great Bend Tribune

Left: 30 Sep 2010
The Hutchinson News

Right: 8 Oct 2010
Ellinwood Leader

Ruth Lorraine Duncan

1912 – 2010

Ellinwood — Ruth Lorraine Duncan, 97, died September 27, 2010, in Irvine, California.

She was born December 18, 1912, in Ellinwood, the daughter of DeWitt and Florence M. Johnson. She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and Long Beach Junior College in Long Beach, California. Formerly of Ellinwood, Dartmouth, and Great Bend, Kansas, and Long Beach and Indian Wells, California, she was a homemaker and piano teacher, and a violinist with the Desert Symphony Orchestra.

On June 12, 1937, she married Charles Duncan Jr. in Long Beach; he died November 18, 2005.

Survivors include one daughter, Lorraine Schmidt, Santa Ana, California.

Funeral service was October 2, 2010, at Kimple Funeral Chapel, Ellinwood, with Bishop Greg Perez officiating. Burial was in the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood.

Memorials are suggested to the Humane Society of America, in care of Kimple Funeral Home, PO Box 246, Ellinwood, KS 67526.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

COUNTY OF ORANGE

HEALTH CARE AGENCY

1200 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 100-A
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

STATE FILE NUMBER		STATE OF CALIFORNIA USE BLACK INK ONLY / NO ERASURES, WHITEOUTS OR ALTERATIONS VS-1 (REV. 3/06)		LOCAL REGISTRATION NUMBER	
1. NAME OF DECEDENT - FIRST (Given)		2. MIDDLE		3. LAST (Family)	
RUTH		LORRAINE		DUNCAN	
4. DATE OF BIRTH mm/dd/yyyy		5. AGE Yrs.		6. SEX	
12/18/1912		97		F	
9. BIRTH STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY		10. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		11. EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES?	
KS		513-46-7467		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK	
12. MARITAL STATUS/SPD* (at Time of Death)		7. DATE OF DEATH mm/dd/yyyy		8. HOUR (24 Hours)	
WIDOWED		09/27/2010		0830	
13. EDUCATION - Highest Level/Degree (see worksheet on back)		14/15. WAS DECEDENT HISPANIC/LATINO/SPANISH? (if yes, see worksheet on back)		16. DECEDENT'S RACE - Up to 3 races may be listed (see worksheet on back)	
SOME COLLEGE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		WHITE	
17. USUAL OCCUPATION - Type of work for most of life. DO NOT USE RETIRED		18. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY (e.g., grocery store, road construction, employment agency, etc.)		19. YEARS IN OCCUPATION	
HOMEMAKER		OWN HOME		1 of 2 77	
20. DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (Street and number, or location)					
10 MARQUETTE APT. #118					
21. CITY		22. COUNTY/PROVINCE		23. ZIP CODE	
IRVINE		ORANGE		92612	
24. YEARS IN COUNTY		25. STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY			
1		CA			
26. INFORMANT'S NAME, RELATIONSHIP					
LORRAINE SCHMIDT, DAUGHTER					
27. INFORMANT'S MAILING ADDRESS (Street and number, or rural route number, city or town, state and zip)					
1501 CLOYDEN ROAD, SANTA ANA, CA 92705					
28. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE/SHD* - FIRST		29. MIDDLE		30. LAST (BIRTH NAME)	
31. NAME OF FATHER/PARENT - FIRST		32. MIDDLE		33. LAST	
DEWITT				CLINTON	
34. BIRTH STATE		35. NAME OF MOTHER/PARENT - FIRST		36. MIDDLE	
IL		FLORENCE		M.	
37. LAST (BIRTH NAME)		38. BIRTH STATE			
JOHNSON		IA			
39. DISPOSITION DATE mm/dd/yyyy		40. PLACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION			
09/30/2010		LAKIN-COMANCHE DISTRICT CEMETERY ELLINWOOD, KS 67526			
41. TYPE OF DISPOSITION (B)		42. SIGNATURE OF EMBALMER		43. LICENSE NUMBER	
TR/BU		DAVID SWEETIN		EMB9021	
44. NAME OF FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT		45. LICENSE NUMBER		46. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR	
MIDGLEY-GARDENSIDE MORTUARY		FD1557		ERIC G. HANDLER, M.D.	
47. DATE mm/dd/yyyy		48. DATE mm/dd/yyyy			
09/30/2010		09/30/2010			
101. PLACE OF DEATH		102. IF HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE		103. IF OTHER THAN HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE	
INN AT THE PARK/HOSPICE		<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> EVOP <input type="checkbox"/> DCA		<input type="checkbox"/> Hospice <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home/LTC <input type="checkbox"/> Decedent's Home <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	
104. COUNTY		105. FACILITY ADDRESS OR LOCATION WHERE FOUND (Street and number, or location)		106. CITY	
ORANGE		10 MARQUETTE APT. #118		IRVINE	
107. CAUSE OF DEATH		108. DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER?		109. BIOPSY PERFORMED?	
(A) CARDIAC ARREST		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
(B) ELECTROLYTE IMBALANCE		Time Interval Between Death and Death		110. AUTOPSY PERFORMED?	
(C) DEHYDRATION		1 MIN		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
(D) CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE		1 WK		111. USED IN DETERMINING CAUSE?	
		1 WK		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
		6 MONS			
112. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RESULTING IN THE UNDERLYING CAUSE GIVEN IN 107		113. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEM 107 OR 112? (If yes, list type of operation and date.)			
NONE		NO			
114. I CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE, AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.		115. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF CERTIFIER		116. LICENSE NUMBER	
Decedent Attended Since mm/dd/yyyy		Decedent Last Seen Alive mm/dd/yyyy		117. DATE mm/dd/yyyy	
10/23/2003		09/27/2010		09/30/2010	
118. TYPE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, ZIP CODE		119. TYPE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, ZIP CODE			
JAMES FELD M.D.		14150 CULVER DR STE 108, IRVINE, CA 92604			
120. INJURED AT WORK?		121. INJURY DATE mm/dd/yyyy		122. HOUR (24 Hours)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK					
123. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., home, construction site, wooded area, etc.)		124. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (Events which resulted in injury)			
125. LOCATION OF INJURY (Street and number, or location, and city, and zip)		126. SIGNATURE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER			
		127. DATE mm/dd/yyyy			
		128. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER			
STATE REGISTRAR		A B C D E		FAX AUTH.#	
				CENSUS TRACT	

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

} SS

DATE ISSUED

DEC 03 2010

This is a true and exact reproduction of the document officially
registered and placed on file in the office of the VITAL RECORDS

* 002829576 *

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

COUNTY OF ORANGE
HEALTH CARE AGENCY1200 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 100-A
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

3052010175959

STATE FILE NUMBER

1.1

AFFIDAVIT TO AMEND A RECORD

NO ERASURES, WHITEOUTS, PHOTOCOPIES,
OR ALTERATIONS

3201030012933

LOCAL REGISTRATION NUMBER

☐ BIRTH ☒ DEATH ☐ FETAL DEATH

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN BLACK INK ONLY - THIS AMENDMENT BECOMES AN ACTUAL PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD

PART I INFORMATION TO LOCATE RECORD

INFORMATION AS IT APPEARS ON ORIGINAL RECORD	1A. NAME—FIRST RUTH	1B. MIDDLE LORRAINE	1C. LAST DUNCAN
	2. SEX F	3. DATE OF EVENT—MM/DD/CCYY 09/27/2010	4. CITY OF EVENT IRVINE
	5. COUNTY OF EVENT ORANGE		
	6. FULL NAME OF FATHER/PARENT AS STATED ON ORIGINAL RECORD DEWITT - CLINTON		
7. FULL NAME OF MOTHER/PARENT AS STATED ON ORIGINAL RECORD FLORENCE M. JOHNSON			

PART II STATEMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO BIRTH, DEATH, OR FETAL DEATH RECORD

8. ITEM NUMBER TO BE CORRECTED	9. INCORRECT INFORMATION THAT APPEARS ON ORIGINAL RECORD	10. CORRECTED INFORMATION AS IT SHOULD APPEAR
19	77	73
32	-	CLINTON
33	CLINTON	JOHNSON
37	JOHNSON	LASH

2 of 2

REASON FOR CORRECTION	11. TO AMEND THE RECORD
--------------------------	-------------------------

AFFIDAVITS AND SIGNATURES	We, the undersigned, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that we have personal knowledge of the above facts and that the information given above is true and correct.		
	12A. SIGNATURE OF FIRST PERSON ▶ GLENN MIDGLEY	12B. PRINTED NAME GLENN MIDGLEY	12C. TITLE/RELATIONSHIP TO PERSON IN PART I FUNERAL DIRECTOR
	12D. ADDRESS (STREET and NUMBER, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 13450 PARAMOUNT BLVD., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280-8251		12E. DATE SIGNED—MM/DD/CCYY 10/29/2010
	13A. SIGNATURE OF SECOND PERSON ▶ ANN O'NEILL	13B. PRINTED NAME ANN O'NEILL	13C. TITLE/RELATIONSHIP TO PERSON IN PART I OFFICE MANAGER
TWO PERSONS MUST SIGN THIS FORM TO CORRECT A BIRTH, DEATH, OR FETAL DEATH RECORD	13D. ADDRESS (STREET and NUMBER, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 13450 PARAMOUNT BLVD, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280-8251		13E. DATE SIGNED—MM/DD/CCYY 11/02/2010
	14. OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS OR LOCAL REGISTRAR ▶ STATE REGISTRAR - OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS	15. DATE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION 11/18/2010	

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS



020101001624577

FORM VS 24e (REV. 1/08)

1.1

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

} SS

DATE ISSUED

DEC 03 2010

This is a true and exact reproduction of the document officially

Su S Handle H.O.



* 002829588 *





**The Duncan Schmidt tombstone in the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery,
Ellinwood, Kansas, with three small stones in front for
Lorraine Schmidt, Ruth and Charles Duncan.
The bottom photo was taken by Darla Carson on 12 Jul 2020.**



**Two of the three small stones in front of the Duncan Schmidt tombstone.
Bottom photo was taken by Darla Carson on 12 Jul 2020.**





The Duncans
Lorraine,
Charles and Ruth
Dec 1996



- ii. **Agnes Marguerite Duncan** (Vernon Henry Henderson aka Charles Duncan, John Henry Henderson) was born on 22 Oct 1911 in Manila, Philippine Islands. She died on 2 Feb 1952 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA. She was buried on 5 Feb 1952 in Orange, Orange, California.

Agnes attended second, third, fourth, and fifth grades in San Francisco in 1918, 1919, 1920, and 1921. She attended 7th grade in Webster School in Omaha, Nebraska in 1924.

An Ancestry Public Member Tree for the Lohr Family owned by joseph_lohr included a photo of Agnes Marguerite Duncan in the Long Beach Polytechnic High School 1929 Yearbook. Her caption is, "Omaha H. S., Neb.; Chi Alpha Tau."



An envelope postmarked 15 Jul 1936 shows Mr. & Mrs. Charles Duncan lived at 3151 California St., San Francisco, and the return address was from their daughter, Agnes M. Duncan, 238 E. 4th St., Long Beach, California. The envelope had a printed return address of Farmers & Merchants Bank, Long Beach, California.

On 26 Nov 1987 my father told me Agnes worked at the switchboard at the Buffum Hotel in Long Beach, California, and lived there for a while. It was downtown and perhaps on 2nd St. [210 East 3rd Street]. It was a modest apartment-type hotel and she worked at the desk.

Charles Duncan's 16 Aug 1938 letter to his sister Clara says Agnes quit working at the Buffum Hotel in about last Feb.

Frances Duncan's 15 Feb 1947 letter to her son Charles said she is going to Agnes' [house] Saturday morning as she is giving a birthday party for Gay and she wants Frances to help her. Frances may stay all night. "Baby Duncan is so sweet and did I tell you she is expecting again in June. A boy we hope."

Frances Duncan's 7 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said tomorrow George is driving her to La Habra and she is going to Whittier with Agnes and Don in the evening to hear a violin concert by Rubinoff. Then Agnes will bring her home the next morning in time for her to give George his dinner and get him off to work. "Aunt Mary and Uncle Pete have written for Sadie and I to come up to Snohomish for the last of June as they are going to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary, but I can't tell whether we can go or not because around the 21st of June Agnes is expecting to be confined and I have promised to go and stay with the children while she is at the hospital. Sadie says she will not go unless I can so there we are. I would love to go as I have always wanted to see Washington and Oregon, and if it is right Love will prepare the way, so I shall just wait and see."

Agnes Lohr's 17 Apr 1947 birthday card to her brother Charles shows her address is 122 North Cypress, La Habra, California. She has been busy sewing all new Easter clothes for her children. On 8 Apr she took her mother to a concert by Rubinoff, a violinist, held at the Whittier Union High School Auditorium. She enclosed a program in which she wrote comments about the selections and said she enjoyed it very much.

Frances Duncan's 3 Feb 1952 letter to Charles and Ruth Duncan said, "...Yesterday about two o'clock I received a call from Community Hospital asking me if I had a daughter Mrs. Lohr and two granddaughters living at La Habra, on being assured I was, the voice said Mrs. Lohr had passed on but they had done everything to save her and would I come right out to the girls. I was so shocked at first but said I would be right out. I had just looked at the clock because I had been looking for Agnes to

bring the baby over and leave her while she took about twelve Camp Fire girls out to a riding academy for a horseback ride. I called Sadie at the store, as she was working, and asked her to come right home which she did in a cab and I had the cab wait and went out in that. When we got there the nurse said she had had a stroke and had gone very suddenly. Then the girls told us that their mother had been sitting on her horse talking to one of the Camp Fire girls when suddenly she just slumped and fell off her horse and the ring master rushed to her but there was a very faint heart beat so they called an ambulance and took her to Community Hospital, but she was gone. A man from the stable went over and told Don. He called the hospital and said he would be over as soon as he could close up and get there which would be about 30 or 45 minutes at the most so we waited for over 2 hours, then we called a cab and brought the girls over here and I had Sadie call the neighbor who was keeping the baby to see if she knew where Don was and she said he was home with the boys. She called him and he came right over. I was going over home with them, but he said he would like to take them home alone and talk with them alone and get quieted down. So that is what they did and when I called him this morning he said he is not going to have a funeral, just a cremation as he does not want the children to have to go through with that. They had bought a new house over at Torrance and it is now in escrow and they were going to move over there this month. Sadie and I will probably go over there and stay with them for a while until he knows what is best for him to do. They are going to hold the autopsy tomorrow and then the mortician at La Habra will take the body over there."

Agnes Marguerite Lohr's death certificate shows her death on 2 Feb 1952 at 1:55 p.m. at the Long Beach Community Hospital, Pacific Coast Highway & Termino Ave., Long Beach, Los Angeles, California. She was dead on arrival and died of fatty degeneration of liver, cause unknown. An autopsy was ordered. She was born on 22 Oct 1911 in Manila, P.I. and was age 40. She is a U.S. citizen and was married. She was a housewife of 122 N. Cypress, La Habra, the same address of her husband, Donald W. Lohr, the informant. Her father is Charles Duncan, born in England, and her mother's maiden name is Frances Gee, born in Nebraska. Her body was cremated on 5 Feb 1952 at the Melrose Abbey, Orange [Anaheim]. The funeral director was Coleman Mortuary, La Habra.

Charles Lohr told me on 18 Mar 1995 that Agnes is in a mausoleum formerly named Abbey (something) and is near the 91 freeway and some other freeway [probably Melrose Abbey above]. Charles and his sister Cathy told me Agnes had cirrhosis of the liver for some time before her death. She was a Christian Scientist.

Agnes Duncan married **Donald Wilson Lohr**, son of Frank Sigel Lohr and Grace Belle Wilson, on 10 Apr 1937 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA. Donald was born on 11 Nov 1906 in Osage, Mitchell, Iowa, USA. He died on 26 Jun 1988 in Sun City, Riverside, California, USA. He was buried in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA. *For more information about his parents' families, see the Lohr and Wilson sections in Volume 4.*

The Iowa Births & Christgs. shows Donald Wilson Lohr's birth on 11 Nov 1906 in Mitchell County. His parents are Frank Sigel [Seigel] Lohr and Grace Belle Wilson.

The 1930 census of Long Beach, California, shows Donald W. Lohr, son, 23, single, hardware salesman, born in Iowa, living at 5614 Atlantic Ave. with his parents Frank S. and Grace W. Lohr. Donald's father was born in Iowa and his mother was born in Illinois. Frank was a hardware merchant.



Donald Wilson Lohr and Agnes Marguerite Duncan's marriage license shows they married on 10 Apr 1937 [Note date below; perhaps 10 Apr was license date?] at Long Beach, California. He was

age 30 and born in Iowa. She was 25 and born in the Philippine Islands. They both lived in Long Beach. They were married by a Baptist minister and witnesses were Mrs. Betty Taylor of Bakersfield, California, and Mr. Scott W. Dobbins of Long Beach.

The California County Birth, Marriage, and Death Records show Agnes Marguerite Duncan and Donald Wilson Lohr married on 12 Apr 1937 in Los Angeles County. He was 30. His father is Frank S. Lohr and his mother's maiden name is Grace Wilson. Agnes was 25. Her father is Charles Duncan and her mother's maiden name is Fanny S. Gee.

In my 15 Jan 2000 phone call to my father, Charles Duncan, Jr., he said Don Lohr and Agnes Duncan married after Jul 1936 and before 12 Jun 1937. They were married by the same minister who married Charles and Ruth [Johnson]. They probably married in the Los Angeles area. Don worked in Los Angeles in a hardware store after Don and Agnes married. They sold tires and Charles bought some there. Neither Charles nor Ruth remembers attending Don and Agnes' wedding, nor do they remember Don and Agnes attending their wedding. [However, Charles and Ruth's Marriage Service shows both Don and Agnes attended and signed the guest book.]

Charles Duncan's 16 Aug 1938 letter to his sister Clara says Don obtained permanent employment in a large hardware store here at the same time Agnes quit her job this past February. He and Agnes are getting along nicely.

Charles Duncan's 28 Nov 1939 letter to his sister Clara says Don and Agnes live in Los Angeles about 24 miles from them. He still works for the same hardware and building supply company, but was transferred to their Los Angeles branch six months ago. Agnes is expecting the stork in a couple of months.

The 1937 *Polk's Long Beach City Directory* shows Donald W. and Agnes M. Lohr lived at 5614 Atlantic Ave. He was a clerk at SR Lampert. In 1942 the same directory shows they lived at 2766 Fashion Ave., and he was a clerk at Cal S Corp. In 1943 they were at same address and he was a clerk at Calship. In 1945 they were at 2354 Santa Fe Ave. and he was a repairman.

The 1940 census of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, shows Donald W. Lohr, head, 33, married, hardware clerk, born in Iowa, living in a rented house at 5034 Meridian with his wife Agnes M., 28, born in the Philippine Islands, and daughter, Grace Ann, 1, born in California. Don and Agnes had completed 4 years of high school. He earned \$1,260 last year and worked 52 weeks in 1939. In 1935 Don and Agnes lived in Long Beach, California. Agnes was an American citizen born abroad.

The U.S. World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, shows Donald Wilson Lohr was born on 11 Nov 1906 in Osage, Iowa. He registered on 16 Oct 1940 in Los Angeles, California. His address is 206 W. 84th Place, Los Angeles, California, and his employer is the Los Angeles Board of Education, Manual Arts High School, Los Angeles. He is 33 years old, is 5'9", weighs 180 pounds, and has a light complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. The person who will always know his address is his wife Mrs. Agnes Duncan Lohr of the same address. He has no telephone.

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says Agnes and family are doing nicely. Don, her husband, is in ship-building work and is designated as instrument maker, first class. He is making substantial money.

FindaGrave.com shows Don was living in Long Beach when his father died in 1945.

Frances Duncan's 7 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said, "... around the 21st of June Agnes is expecting to be confined and I have promised to go and stay with the children while she is at the hospital..."

Frances Duncan's 6 Oct 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said Don sold his business and has taken a position with a lumber and paint company in Hawthorne, California. He bought an old bus in Whittier, California, and is fixing it up as a trailer and is living in that over at his work during

the week and then has the weekends at home. He and Agnes are going shopping for a house to buy or rent as they don't like the present arrangement. [Hawthorne (work) and La Habra (home) are 32 miles apart.]

An undated Christmas card [Dec 1947] written by Agnes Lohr, nee Duncan, to Ruth and Charles Duncan says Don has lost his job in Hawthorne, but they are still living in La Habra. Don just left for Monrovia, California, to help some friends there wire their new house made of concrete blocks. Don and Agnes are converting a bus into a house trailer with kitchen, beds, tables, etc. They plan to drive it back east and visit the Duncans the following summer. Then Don will look for a permanent job. The card is signed with these Lohr names: Donald Wilson, Agnes Marguerite, Charles Frederick, Donald Duncan, Frances Elaine and Grace Ann.

Sade Johnson's 3 Feb 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said Agnes, Don and children visited them at 266 [Cerritos Ave., Long Beach] on Saturday. The baby is so cute and he has very dark eyes and the nicest soft thick brown hair. Sade is glad he looks like Agnes.

Agnes' 6 Feb 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said they have fixed up a yellow coach bus and making it into a house car with a one-woman galley, toilet facilities, clothes closet, sleeping accommodations, eating and living space for the six of them. They plan to take a five- or six-week trip to visit Charles and family in Kansas, then to Omaha, Nebraska, and on to Iowa to see Don's folks, then South Dakota and Salt Lake, Utah. They plan to depart in mid-June. [They did visit Charles and Ruth. See their notes for more info.] Agnes is thinking about buying a Kaiser dishwasher as their big family uses lots of dishes. Their girls wash the breakfast dishes, but she doesn't want them to stay up late to wash the dinner dishes. Their address is 122 North Cypress St., La Habra, California.

My Jun 1948 diary entries show Don and family arrived in their bus at Charles and Ruth Duncan's home at Dartmouth on 25 Jun and left on 28 Jun.

My father told me that after his sister's death, her five children were sent to an orphanage and lived there for several months before Don re-married a woman his children later told me had been mentally ill for most of their lives.

Cathy Collins, nee Lohr, told me on 18 Mar 1995 that Don and his second wife Peggy lived in Yorba Linda, California, from 1961-1970 or 1972. Cathy wonders why Don struggled so in his business. Cathy and her brother Charlie said they all lived in the Masonic Home for a year until their father remarried a year and a half after Agnes died. He worked hard at dating to find someone who would marry him and take on five children. Cathy said Don never got over Agnes' death and that he was very much in love with her.

Charles Lohr told me on 18 Mar 1995 that he found one of Don's old business cards, "Cady and Lohr" feed and hardware with a Long Beach address. Charlie said he and his siblings lived in the Masonic Home after Agnes died. It was very nice with horses, a pool and acres of lawn. Earlier they were split up among various relatives.

Clare Henderson's 30 Apr 1952 letter to Ruth Duncan said she wrote to Fanny Duncan last week and hopes the right person will be found who can be the most help to Don and the children. Clare's 18 Dec 1952 letter to Ruth said she was glad Don lived near his family.

The California Marr. Index shows Donald W. Lohr and Peggy Dalton married on 6 Jun 1953 in Los Angeles. He was 46 and she was 34.

An undated letter from Florence Johnson to Ruth, Charles and Lorraine Duncan said she and Clint had visited Don and family and all seem pretty well satisfied. The new step-mother seems to have them well in hand and they seem to be happy with her.

Photographs of Don Lohr's house and five children indicate they lived in Covina, California, in 1953.

Agnes Marguerite Duncan (1911-1952)



Easter Sunday, 27 Mar 1921, San Francisco, California





1918

Agnes Duncan's 2nd grade class in San Francisco, California, 2nd from left in 1st standing row



1919

Agnes Duncan's 3rd grade class in San Francisco, California, first on right in front row



Agnes Duncan's 4th grade class in San Francisco, California, 2nd from right in 1st row



Agnes Duncan's 5th grade class in San Francisco, California, 4th from left kneeling in 2nd row



Agnes Duncan's 7th grade class, Webster School, Omaha, Nebraska, summer 1924, 3rd row, 2nd from right



**Agnes
Marguerite
Duncan, 1929,
Long Beach
Polytechnic
High School
yearbook,
Chi Alpha Tau,
previously at
Omaha High
School
Source: U.S.
Yearbooks,
Ancestry.com**



Agnes Marguerite Duncan



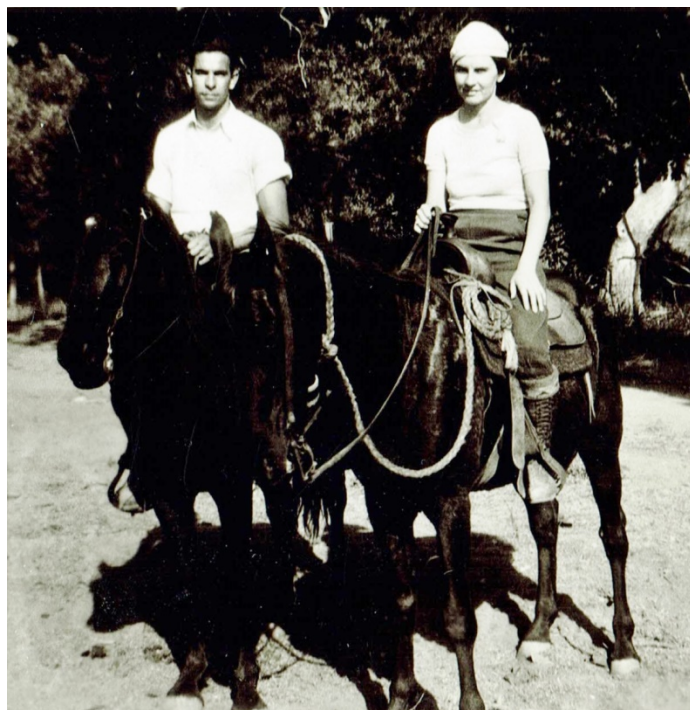
**Agnes Lohr nee Duncan
in front of
her parents' home at
745 Daisy Ave.,
Long Beach, California,
about 1943**

About 1937





Charles Duncan, Jr., and his sister Agnes



Louis Fisher and Agnes



**L to R: Louis Fisher, Agnes, Dorothy Hinkley, Charles.
Louis and Dorothy were friends of Charles.**



**Don and Agnes Lohr's house in Covina, built
in 1903. Photo taken 1953.**

**Stained
glass window
from above house**





**L to R: Don and Agnes Lohr, Ruth, Charles and baby Lorraine Duncan,
at the Duncan home at 2506 Spaulding St., Long Beach, California, 17 Apr 1938**



**L to R:
George Duncan,
Agnes Lohr, Frances and
Charles Duncan,
Don Lohr, and two Lohr
daughters, Jun 1944**

Agnes Lohr's
17 Apr 1947
letter to (her
brother)
Charles,
Ruth, &
Lorraine
Duncan

Thursday 4-17-47

Dear Charles, & Ruth & Lorraine ---

Greetings, & the best of everything for the years ahead. I'm sorry about not having answered sooner but it seems as though I haven't had a chance to draw a quick breath for myself lately. I'd been making the children all new clothes for Easter; and the day after - Gay's music teacher informed me that ~~she~~ ^(she pins a rope made up as Shirley Temple) she should have a very short, ruffled party dress to wear for the school program, so that took all last week to make and Friday I took the children down to George's wedding which was very nice but small as they were married at 10:30 A.M. I had a heck of a time getting down there that early, too. His wife is very nice -- a couple of years younger than George, which is swell.

Now Gay's music teacher wants her to have a "Dutch girl" costume for her piano recital in May. Frances is taking dancing lessons now and I suppose she will have to have costumes too, soon. Mother was up here the 8th & we took her to Whittier to hear Rubinoff play his violin. It was wonderful. She spent the night and went home Wednesday.

About Mother's finances -- she got some insurance money a while back but her pension hasn't started yet for some "red tape reason" and so I shipped a \$5 bill into an Easter card for her to get a new Easter hat with but she didn't use it for a

Agnes Lohr's 17 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth, & Lorraine Duncan, cont.

hat so I guess she needed it
for something else. I'm going to
try to get a little money to her
every now & then to be on the
sure side instead of waiting for
her to say anything because as
you know she would never men-
tion it. I think she & Sadie
will share the apt. down stairs
& George & Jean take Sadie's place
upstairs, but Mother is just
waiting to see how things work
out. She has been swell about
Dad's going but it takes a bit
of adjustment anyway. Her pension

BUZZA - CARDOZO
HOLLYWOOD - U.S.A.
109 1033



will only ~~be~~ forty dollars a month which won't allow
much for ~~living~~ ^{luxury}. (This paper is terrible for pen &
ink.) We suggested building a little
one room house with kitchenette & bath
on the back of our lot for her but she
is not sure yet what she wants to do.
George pulled quite a surprise on her by
getting married and Sadie is attaching herself
to her more than ever and is looking forward

Agnes Lohr's 17 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth, & Lorraine Duncan, cont.

to stopping work at Pennys in a couple of years. That gives you an idea of the situation to date. I know things will work out all right but right now most anything could happen.

Well, Charles, the very best wishes from all of us for a swell birthday and all year. I'll let Don take over and give you the dope on the hardware situation.

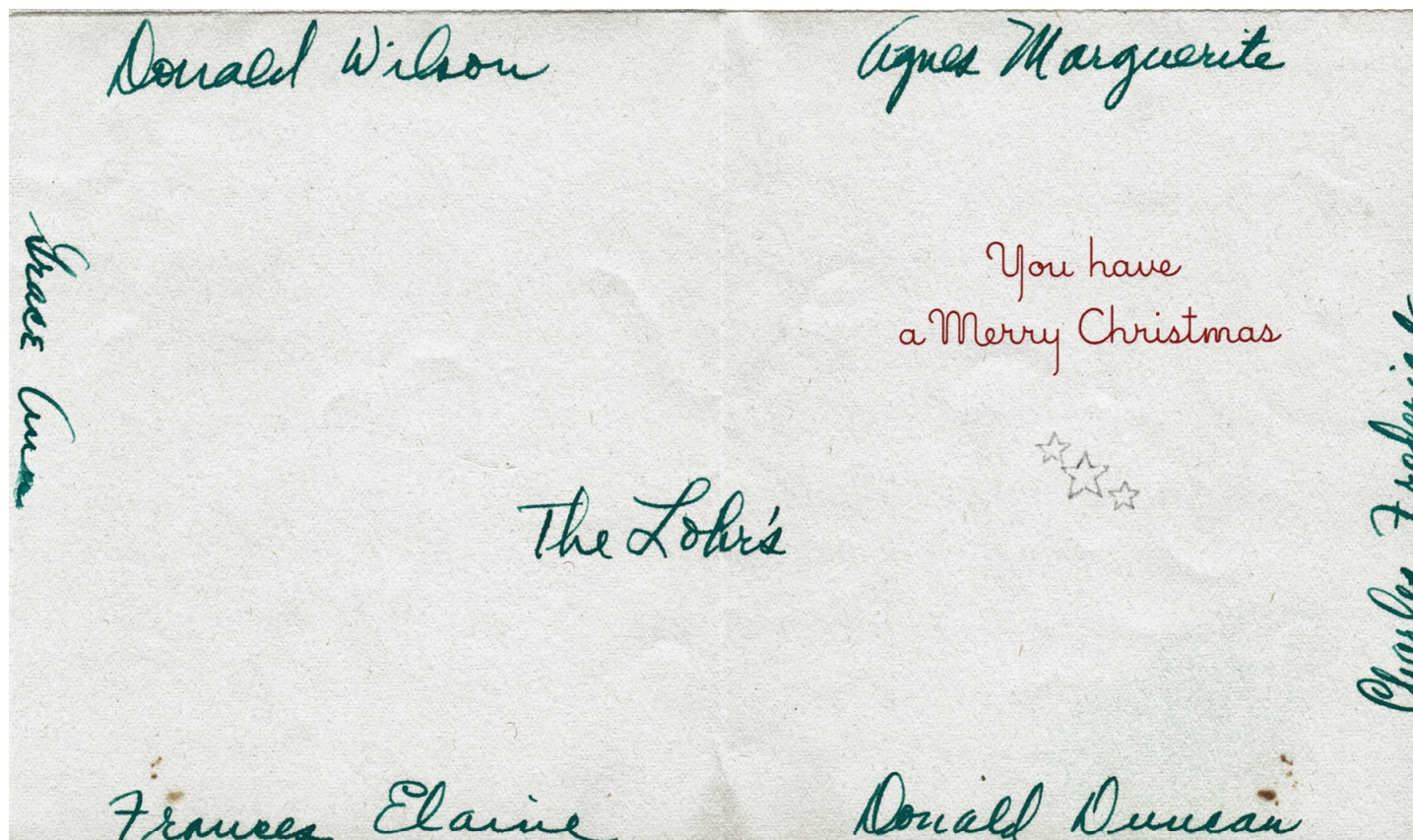
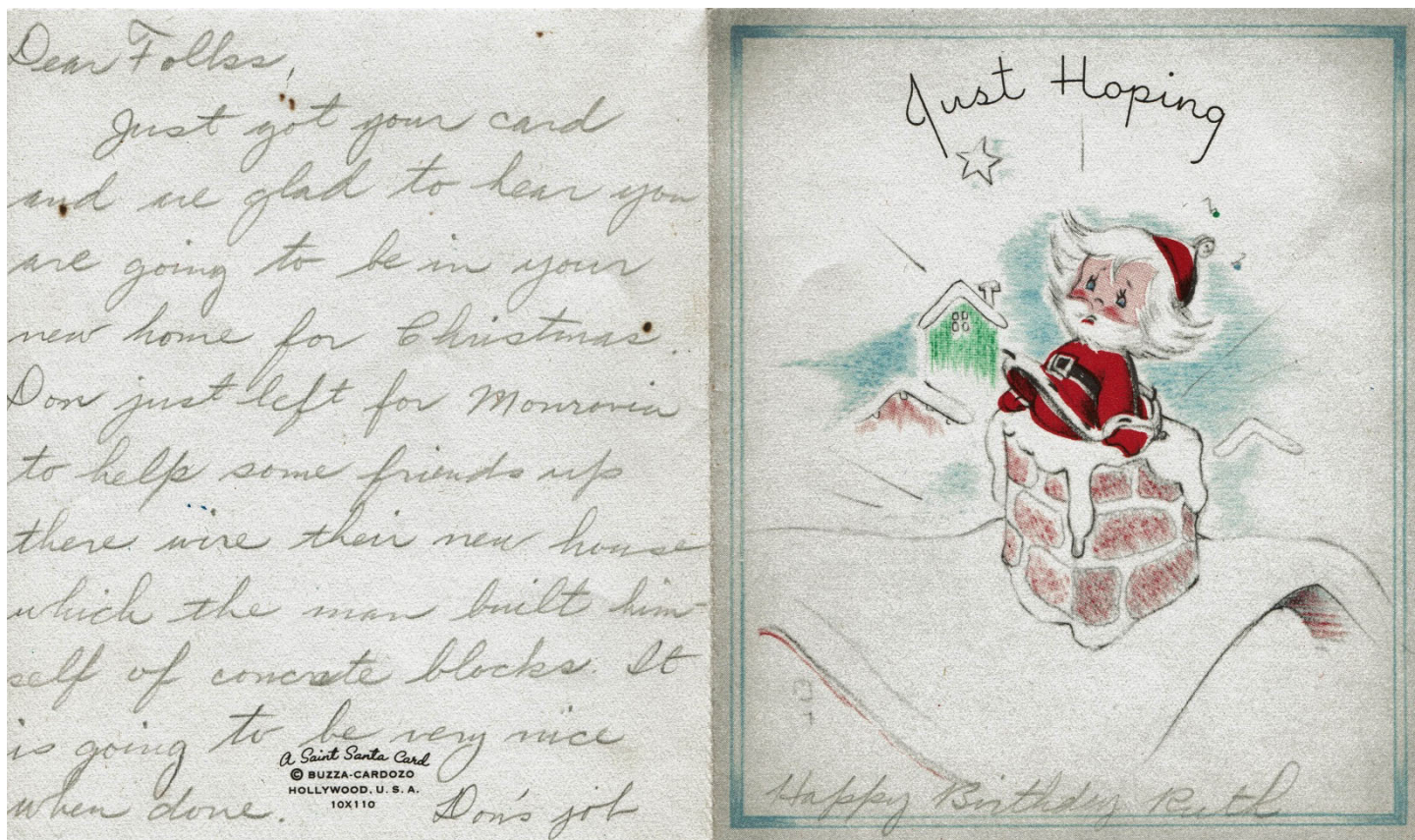
Love, Agnes

The hdwe & paint situation has changed very little. The easing-up of bldg. restrictions has absorbed any increase of hdwe. supplies available to dealers. Kitchen cabinet hdwe. is O.K. to get. I have a good stock of this. Paint is too expensive to ship.

Must stop now & get Gay ready to go and sing tonight. Write soon & let us know if there is anything we can help you with on your house.

Love
Agnes

**A 1947 Christmas card to Ruth and Charles Duncan from
Donald and Agnes Lohr, p. 1**



**A 1947 Christmas card to Ruth and Charles Duncan from
Donald and Agnes Lohr, p. 2**

in Hawthorne folded up + working.

so we are still in La
Habra. Did Mother tell
you about our bus? It
is one like they use in
Whittier and we will
have a galley in the back,
2 closets, 2 double deck
bunks, a denport that
makes into a double bed
2 chairs and a couple of

folding chairs tables. We
are trying to get it fixed
up and have it ready
to go back East about
the time school lets
out. We will stop + see
you then. Don is not
looking for a permanent
job until then as we
want to make the trip
this summer for sure +
we never will if he starts

I'm sending a package
and a picture of your
name sake Charles. Isn't
he cute? He has brown eyes
All the other children have
blue or green eyes. Charles
looks more like me than
the others do. He is a very
good baby + I really spend
more time on Duncan than
on the baby. I never knew
what it is to be kept
busy until Duncan started
to run around + get into
everything. Oh boy!

What do you think of
Jean? I know you have never
seen her but Mother + George
have probably told you about
her. She is very quiet so it
is hard to feel that I
know her very well. I like
her a lot though. Well Merry
Xmas + lots of love. Agnes. D

2-5-48

Dear Ruth, Charles & Lorraine,

Thanks so much for the book and necklaces & things for Christmas. We have all been under the weather for the last three or four weeks & I have been up at night with the children so much I hardly remember as far back as Christmas except that we all had a good time and got lots of presents.

Now we are knee deep in plans for a long bus trip as soon as school is out. Mother may have mentioned that we got

-2-

a yellow Coach bus and are making it into a house car. We will have a "galley" (one-woman), toilet facilities, sleeping accommodations for the six of us, clothes closet, eating & living space. We are quite thrilled about it all and want to get it all ready so we can leave about the middle of June. We would like to see you folks, then go to Omaha, then to Iowa to see Don's folks, up into South Dakota and back home by way of Salt Lake. We figure we will be gone about 5 or 6 weeks all together. Some fun!

Agnes Lohr's 5 Feb 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, & Lorraine Duncan

-3-

Some friends of ours are building a house and had planned to put in a Thor automagic sink but heard that they still had too many "bugs" in the mechanisms so they were wondering about what to do. I said I thought you folks had one and would write and ask you how yours worked. Their house is almost finished and that is one of the few things holding up the works so if you could drop us a card ^{soon} about your sink it would be appreciated. Also how about the pots & pans? I've always wondered why they don't

put in a shaft with a scouring pad attached and clean the burned pots with that. Think of the finger nail polish that would save. I'm interested in the Kaiser dish washer that uses hot water for power too. No motor to give out. With six of us dishwashing is getting to be quite a chore now. The girls do the breakfast things but I don't like to keep them up at night to do the dinner dishes.

Well I'll have to stop now and take care of all the little ones. Be seeing you before long.
Love, Agnes.



**Donald and
Agnes Lohr
and their
children
Grace,
Frances,
Donald,
Charles &
Cathy
in 1951.**

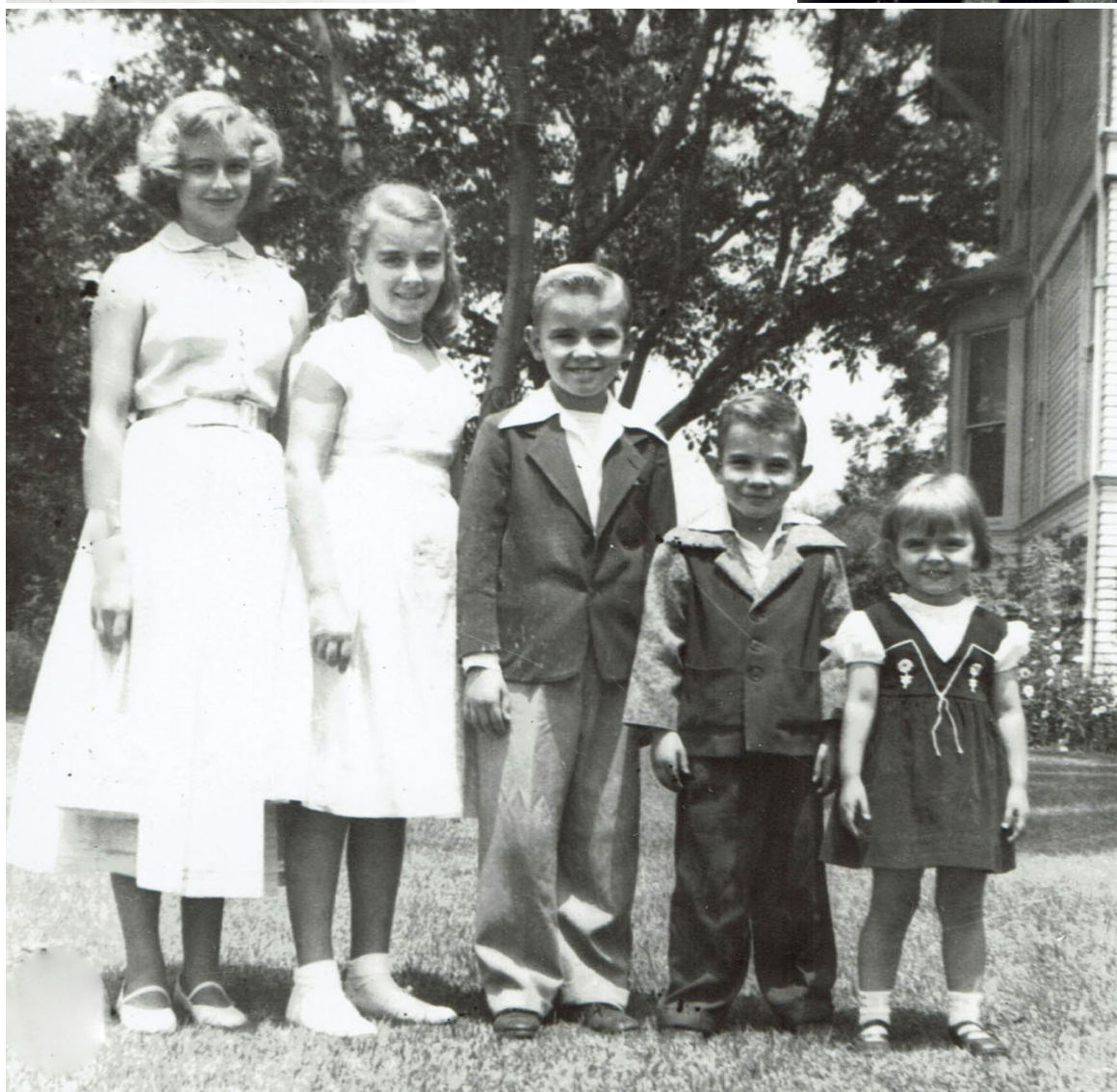




Left: Agnes Lohr with daughters Grace and Frances.



Right: Frances Duncan with granddaughters Frances and Grace Lohr.



**L. to R.:
Grace, Frances,
Donald, Charles,
& Cathy Lohr.
Covina,
California, 1953**

Agnes Marguerite Lohr, nee Duncan, death certificate

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		REGISTRATION NO. 1903		REGISTRAR'S NUMBER 238	
FILE NO. 52-007878		MIDDLE NAME		LAST NAME		DATE OF DEATH - MONTH, DAY, YEAR	
14 NAME OF DECEDENT		15 MIDDLE NAME		16 LAST NAME		17 DATE OF DEATH	
Agnes Marguerite Lohr		Marguerite Lohr		Lohr		Feb. 2, 1952	
3 SEX		4 COLOR		5 MARRIAGE		6 DATE OF BIRTH	
Female		Cauc.		Married		Oct. 22, 1911	
8a. USUAL OCCUPATION		8b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY		9 BIRTHPLACE		10 CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY	
Housewife		Own Home		Manila, P. I.		U. S. A.	
11 NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER		12 MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER		13 NAME OF PRESENT SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)		14 INFORMANT	
Charles Duncan, Eng.		Frances Gee, Nebraska		Donald W. Lohr, La Habra		122 N. Cypress	
14 WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES?		15 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		16 INFORMANT		17a. LENGTH OF STAY IN THIS CITY OR TOWN	
No		None		Donald W. Lohr, La Habra			
17a. COUNTY		17b. CITY OR TOWN		17c. ADDRESS		17d. STREET OR RURAL ADDRESS	
Los Angeles		Long Beach		Long Beach Community Hosp. D.O.A.		Long Beach Calif.	
18a. STATE		18b. COUNTY		18c. CITY OR TOWN		18d. STREET OR RURAL ADDRESS	
Calif.		Orange		La Habra		120 N. Cypress St.	
19a. CORONER'S CERTIFICATION		19b. PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION		19c. PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION		19d. PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION	
Autopsy		Autopsy		Autopsy		Autopsy	
19e. SIGNATURE OF CORONER		19f. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN		19g. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN		19h. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN	
Richard H. Brown		Richard H. Brown		Richard H. Brown		Richard H. Brown	
20a. SPECIFY RURAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL		20b. DATE		20c. CEMETERY OR CREMATORY		20d. DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR	
Cremation		2/5/52		Melrose Abbey, Orange		Mar 10 1952	
21. FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND REGISTRAR		22. DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR		23. DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR		24. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR	
Coleman Mortuary, La Habra		2/5/52		2/5/52		2/5/52	
25. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH		26. DISEASE OR CONDITION CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE DISEASE OR CONDITION CAUSING DEATH		27. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION		28. PLACE OF INJURY	
Fatty degeneration of liver, cause undetermined							
29a. SPECIFY ACCIDENT, SUICIDE OR HOMICIDE		29b. TIME MONTH DAY YEAR HOUR		29c. INJURY OCCURRED		29d. HOW DID INJURY OCCUR?	

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

OFFICE OF
THE STATE REGISTRAR
OF VITAL STATISTICS

This is to certify that
this is a true copy of
the document filed in
this office, if validated
on the reverse.

BEVERLY A. MYERS, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
NO STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

BY *Mark L. Shultz*

Mark L. Shultz, Clerk
VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH

DEC 16 1981



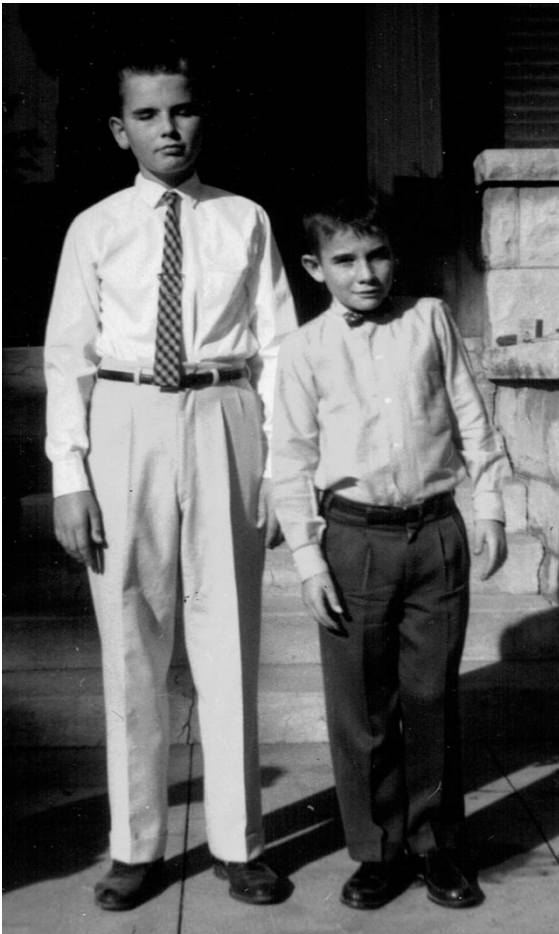
The Lohr Family with great-aunt Sade
L. To R.: Donald, Peggy Lohr (nee Dalton), Grace, Charles, Cathy,
Sade Johnson (nee Gee), Frances
1957



Frances Lohr
1960

**The children
of Donald and
Agnes Lohr,
L. to R.:**

**Cathy,
Charles,
Donald,
Frances, &
Grace
in 1959.**



Charles Lohr's Oct 2019 emails show a stained glass window he recently displayed in his living room in Prescott, Arizona, that had belonged to his father and step-mother in the old house at 417 E. Badillo St., Covina, built in 1903. They lived there from 1954-1965. When they tore the house down to build twelve apartments on the lot, they installed the window in their apartment. They were not prepared for the hidden costs of owning an apartment building and ended up losing it. When they moved to Hemet, California, they took the stained glass window with them. When the Hemet home was cleared out, Charles' sister Grace took it to her home in Bishop, California, but never installed it. Charlie is happy to have it up and out to be appreciated after 30 years.

A relative of Don and Peggy Lohr told me their address in the mid-to-late 1980s was 330 S. Carmelita, Hemet, California.

In her 28 Jun 1988 phone call, Peggy Lohr said her husband Donald Lohr died 26 Jun 1988 at the Sun City Convalescent Home of heart failure. He was age 81. He was cremated 1 Jul 1988 in Hemet, California. They married on 6 Jun 1953.

The U.S. Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Vol. 2, shows Donald W. Lohr's birth on 11 Nov 1900 [note difference in birth year with other sources]. His address was 330 S. Carmelita St., Hemet, California 92543-5942. [No date is shown.]

The U.S. Social Security Death Index shows Donald Wilson Lohr's birth on 11 Nov 1906 in Iowa and death on 26 Jun 1988. His last residence was Hemet, Riverside, California. He received his Social Security number in California before 1951.

The California Death Index, 1940-1997, shows Donald Wilson Lohr's birth on 11 Nov 1906 in Iowa and death on 26 Jun 1988 in Riverside County, California. His mother's maiden name is Wilson.

FindaGrave.com shows Donald W. Lohr's birth on 11 Nov 1906 and his death on 26 Jun 1988. He was buried or cremated at Forest Lawn Memorial Park (Covina Hills), Covina, Los Angeles, California. He is in Plot Columbarium of Hope, Lot 0, Space 1125. The inscription shows, "LOHR Donald W. 1905-1987 [1906-1988]. Peggy D. 1918-1994." His parents are Frank Seigel Lohr and Grace Belle Lohr, nee Wilson.

The 6 Mar 1989 letter from Charles Duncan, Jr., to Symons & Gay, Solicitors re: John Henry Henderson's estate says Agnes M. Lohr, nee Duncan, died many years ago leaving 5 children. Donald Lohr died recently.

Donald also married **Peggy Dalton** on 6 Jun 1953 in Los Angeles County, California, USA. Peggy was born 14 Mar 1918 in Danielsville, Madison, Georgia. She died on 17 Sep 1994 in Los Angeles County, California, USA. She was buried in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA.

The 1920 census of Danielsville, Madison, Georgia, shows an unnamed female Dalton, 1, born in Georgia, living at Athens Royston Rd. with her parents Alfred S., 35, and Willie S. Dalton, 34, and her siblings. Alfred was a farmer and born in North Carolina. His father was born in North Carolina and his mother was born in Georgia. Willie was born in Georgia, as were her parents. A servant and a hired farm hand also lived in the home.

The 1930 census of Sarasota, Sarasota, Florida, shows Peggie Dalton, daughter, 12, student, living at 2839 Riverside Drive with her parents Alfred S. and Willie S. Dalton, both age 45, and her siblings Mary, 17, Robert P., 16, and David, 10. Alfred was a wholesale groceries salesman, and he and his parents were born in North Carolina. Willie was a grocery



store manager. Willie, her parents, and all the children were born in Georgia.

The 1940 census of Yadkin, Stokes, North Carolina, taken on 18 Apr shows Peggy B. Dalton, daughter, 22, single, new worker seeking work, born in Georgia, living in Old Highway with her parents Alfred and Willie Dalton, her brother David N. Dalton, her uncle Thomas A. Dalton, and a servant. She had completed four years of high school, did not work and had \$0 income in 1939, and in 1935 lived in rural Madison County, Georgia.

Grace Ann Lohr told me on 18 Mar 1995 that Peggy was 35 when she married Don [in 1953]. She had never been married and hardly ever dated.

An undated letter from Florence Johnson to Ruth, Charles and Lorraine Duncan said she and Clint had visited Don and family and all seem pretty well satisfied. The new step-mother seems to have them well in hand and they seem to be happy with her. She is very short and is only five feet tall, but rather plump. Sadie said she was quite slender when they were married.

The North Carolina Willis and Probate Records shows Alfred Scales Dalton's will was probated on 10 Sep 1956 in Stokes County. His estate was valued at \$1,600. Mrs. Peggy Lohr of Covina, California, is named as one of his children.

In her 28 Jun 1988 phone call about her husband's death, Peggy Lohr stated she is 70 and lives in the San Dimas Retirement Center, 834 W. Arrow Hwy, San Dimas, California.

The U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows Peggy Dalton/Peggy Dalton Lohr/Peggy Lohr's birth on 14 Mar 1918 in Danielsville, Georgia, and her death in Sep 1994. Her father is Alfred S. Dalton and mother is Willie S. Sorrells.

The California Death Index shows Peggy Lohr, nee Dalton, was born on 14 Mar 1918 in Georgia and died on 17 Sep 1994 in Los Angeles County. Her mother's maiden name is Sorrells.

FindaGrave.com shows Peggy Lohr's birth on 14 Mar 1918 and death on 17 Sep 1994. She has an inside memorial plaque with her husband Donald W. Lohr at Forest Lawn Memorial Park (Covina Hills, Covina, Los Angeles, California, Plot: Columbarium of Hope, Lot 0, Space 1125. The inscription shows, "LOHR Donald W. 1905-1987 [Note correct dates are 1906-1988.] Peggy D. 1918-1994." Peggy is the daughter of Alfred Scales Dalton and Willie Scott Sorrell.

- iii. **George Gee Duncan** (Vernon Henry Henderson aka Charles Duncan, John Henry Henderson) was born on 26 Sep 1925 in Omaha, Douglas, Nebraska, USA. He died on 9 Jul 1994 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says George took to horseback riding when he was eight years old and the cost was negligible. Then they went to San Francisco for seven months, but when they returned, riding opportunities did not present themselves.

Charles Duncan's 16 Aug 1938 letter to his sister Clara says George is almost 13 and recently spent two weeks at Sierra Madre last month. It is a small town 35 miles north of Long Beach. Now George is enjoying a week in a Boy Scout camp in the mountains 120 miles east of Long Beach. He is growing to be a fine-looking boy and is strong, happy and makes friends wherever he goes. He has been taking violin lessons for the past nine months and has made reasonably good progress, but is not enthusiastic about practicing.

Charles Duncan's 22 Nov 1938 letter to his sister Clare says George is continuing violin lessons from his daughter-in-law Ruth. Now that they have a violin, Charles is enjoying playing it, also.

Charles Duncan's 28 Nov 1939 letter to his sister Clara says he regrets to say George has discontinued further playing the violin. George is fine and is now a little over 14 years old. He likes to work with tools and make things. He also likes to make innumerable sketches which he dashes off with rapidity and enjoys his boy scout activities. But he is indifferent to working for honors.

[George was a fairly talented illustrator and enjoyed sketching accompanied with humorous captions in letters he wrote and on other papers.]

A photo dated 29 Sep 1940 shows George wearing a military uniform.

The U.S. School Yearbooks, 1900-1999, shows George Duncan's photo when he was a senior at Long Beach Polytechnic High School, Long Beach, California, in 1943. No sports, activities or clubs were listed after his name as were listed after most students' names.

The U.S. World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, dated 27 Sep 1943 shows George Gee Duncan's birth on 26 Sep 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska. He was 18 and his employer was Douglas Aircraft Corp., Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach, California. He was 5'10", weighed 145 pounds, had a light complexion, hazel eyes and brown hair. His address was 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, which was the same address as his mother, Mrs. Francis [Frances] S. Duncan. They had a telephone.

An inscription for photo of George Duncan in sailor suit with one stripe and white cap is: "This photo was taken quite early in "Boots", hence the billiard ball haircut. The hat was placed by a civilian female photographer, hence its rakish angle. The single stripe on the cuff indicates the rank of apprentice seaman. Upon graduating from "Boots", it is changed to two stripes which signifies seaman second class. The photographer was good-looking but my Chief Petty Officer was standing in the doorway, hence no "wolf grin", but instead the pure angelic smirk."

[I remember hearing that George joined the Navy, but because of his color blindness was not sent overseas. Most of his working life he spent as a factory worker at the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. working alternating shifts which was hard on his sleeping habits.]

George Duncan's 26 Feb 1944 letter to his parents says he was stationed at the U.S. Naval Training Station in Farragut, Idaho, Co. 3004-44 Camp Scott. He wrote, "Dear Mom and Dad: Please excuse my not writing, but I haven't had time for anything. Work details all day for the past week. Last night



my name appeared on a draft list for Hospital corp. Today we had pre-muster, a physical check to determine who is ready for draft. They said my throat was red and for me to have it swabbed 3 times a day. If it passes their inspection tomorrow then I leave tomorrow. If they still maintain that I have a "sore throat" I will be forced to wait for another draft. In the event that anyone tells me that I'm too unhealthy to go out on draft I will remind them that the navy considered me healthy enough to get along on about six hours sleep a night under very poor and undesirable conditions, stand in long chow lines out in the snow and spend day after day out in the woods felling trees, sawing, splitting and loading timber ankle deep in snow. It is pretty definite that this draft is going to San Diego, Calif. Boy! Just think what I could do with a weekend liberty there! Well Cherrio, George."

George Gee Duncan's post card shows his address as "George Gee Duncan H.A.1/c [Hospital Apprentice 1st class], U.S. Naval Hospital, Unit 2, Corona, California", written to his father Mr. Charles Duncan, 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach 2, California, and received on 12 Jun 1944. He wrote, "Dear Dad: Just received your letter postmarked June 8. Thanks. There is nothing to report from here right now. The time is 0310 Sunday morning. I have a date with a girl in Corona for tonight. Boy I have a problem. You know that Indian ring of mine? Well, so far, I have made it a point to kiss every girl who has tried it on. Now the night nurse is wearing the thing, and she is an Ensign. What does a guy do in a case like that!! Boy this night duty sure creates some strange situations, etc. Well I'll close now and start thinking of some way to work this out. Cherrio George P.S. 0730 Mission accomplished."

Charles Duncan's 13 Jul 1944 letter to his sister Clara says George was assigned to the Navy and entered on active duty a few days before Christmas. He was then sent up north to a point near the Canadian border for basic training. After completing training, he went to San Diego for training in Hospital Corps work, after about two months of which his next assignment was to a Naval Hospital at Corona, about 35 miles east of Long Beach. He is now rated as Hospital Apprentice, 1st class, and his basic pay has been twice raised so that it is now \$66 a month. He is able to drop in and see them twice a month.

Frances Duncan's 7 Apr 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said George lives with her and works swing shift. He will be married this Friday to Miss Jean Severn of Bellflower by Rev. Anderson of the First Congregational Church in the chapel at 10:30 a.m. They will take a week's honeymoon leaving right after the service. They will visit Las Vegas, Boulder Dam, Death Valley, Sequoia Natl. Forest, Yosemite, Sacramento, and Clear Lake where Jean's parents are moving to a ranch in about a month. Then they will visit San Francisco and down the coast home. Jean, age 19 [18], seems a sweet child, and they will live with Frances after their marriage.

The wedding announcement of George Gee Duncan and Beverly Jean Severn shows their marriage on Friday, 11 Apr 1947, in Long Beach. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M. Severn.

The marriage certificate of George Gee Duncan and Beverly Jean Severn shows their marriage on 11 Apr 1947 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, by a Congregational minister. A witness was Dorothy Warner of 5633 (illegible street name). The groom was 21 on his last birthday which was 26 Sep 1925 and was single. He lived at 266 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach #2, California. It was his first marriage. He was born in Nebraska and worked as a machine operating laborer for Great Lakes Carbon Corp. His father is Charles Duncan (deceased born in Gravesend, England.) His mother's maiden name is Frances Selina Gee who was born in Nebraska. (Wisconsin had been lined through.) The bride was 18 at her last birthday which was 2 Dec 1929. She was single and born in Nebraska. It was her first marriage. She worked as a dining room hostess at Knott's Berry Place. Her father is Glenn Martin Severn born in Nebraska. Her mother's maiden name is Anna Belle Buchanan [Buchanan], born in Kansas.

Agnes Lohr's 17 Apr 1947 birthday card to her brother Charles said she took all the children to George's wedding which was very nice, but small. The wedding was a surprise to his mother. His wife is very nice and younger than George which is swell. They married at 10:30 a.m. and Agnes had

a hard time getting down there that early. Agnes' address was 122 North Cypress, La Habra, California. Agnes thinks Sadie will move in with her mother in the downstairs apt. and George and his new wife will move into Sadie's upstairs apartment. [George and Jean lived with Frances after their marriage for a year.]

Frances Duncan's 4 May 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said George met Jeanne [Jean] about a year ago and then they met again sometime in the latter part of 1946. He dropped Ilene (sp?), the girl he brought up to see them in Inglewood, and devoted his full time and attention to her. He and Jean wanted to get married in Las Vegas, but Frances persuaded them to have a church wedding. They were married by the pastor of the First Congregational Church in Long Beach. It was held in the pretty little wedding chapel in the west end of the church. It was a very nice service only lasting about 20 minutes. The following were present:

Dorothy Warren and Don Stewart, the couple's oldest friends, who stood up with them.

Dorothy's mother

Jean's mother and sister, Mary [Glenna Bell Severn], and her girlfriend

Sadie

Agnes and her children

Frances.

Frances Duncan's 6 Oct 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said George and Jeanne [Jean] are leaving in one week for a vacation to Carlsbad Caverns and she wishes she could go along.

Sade Johnson's 3 Feb 1948 to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said George and Jeanne [Jean] are still at 266 [Cerritos Ave., Long Beach] and both are busy. Sade doesn't see much of them. They are nice kids, though.

Frances' 4 May 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said she enjoys her job a lot. She earns about \$80 a month and with her \$48 pension, she hopes she can manage. When George and Jean lived with her, he paid the rent and utilities. She helped with the food. On 10 Apr 1948 George and Jean moved into a nearby apartment by themselves at her request because with his work, they could not have a regular schedule for doing things at home and with her work, she had to have more time to herself. George and Jean slept in the living room, so that was difficult as he had to sleep during the day when he worked nights.

My Oct 1949 diary entries show George and Jean visited Charles and Ruth at Dartmouth for a week. Photos show George and Jean's apartment on Spaulding St., Long Beach, in July 1950.

A 29 Jul 1957 letter from the Veteran's Administration, Wash., D.C., to George G. Duncan, 5888 Pageantry St., Long Beach, stated that Frances Selina Duncan is deceased and enclosed a \$12.64 check.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 7 Mar 1970 diary entry says he and Ruth visited George and Jean and George gave Charles a tour of the Great Lakes Carbon plant where he works.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 9 Apr 1972 diary entry says he and Ruth visited George and Jean at their surprise 25th wedding anniversary party.

Florence Johnson's 1 Jan 1974 diary entry says George thinks he may be transferred to Enid, Oklahoma, and she doesn't think they will like that. [He wasn't.]

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 20 Dec 1981 diary entry says Jean called to say she left George and she was staying with Lisa. He has a drinking problem.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 28 Mar 1982 diary entry says he and Ruth drove to Norwalk to see Lisa, Glen and Greg and to give his old golf club irons to Glen [Lisa's husband]. George and Jean were also there and Jean gave Charles a lot of rocks for him to take to a dealer for identification and appraisal. Charles did so a few days later.

George Gee Duncan (1925-1994)



**Probably on the roof of
204 S. 25th St., a 4-story
apartment building
overlooking downtown in
Omaha, Nebraska.
George on the right
1926**



**Left:
George
Duncan
about age 4**

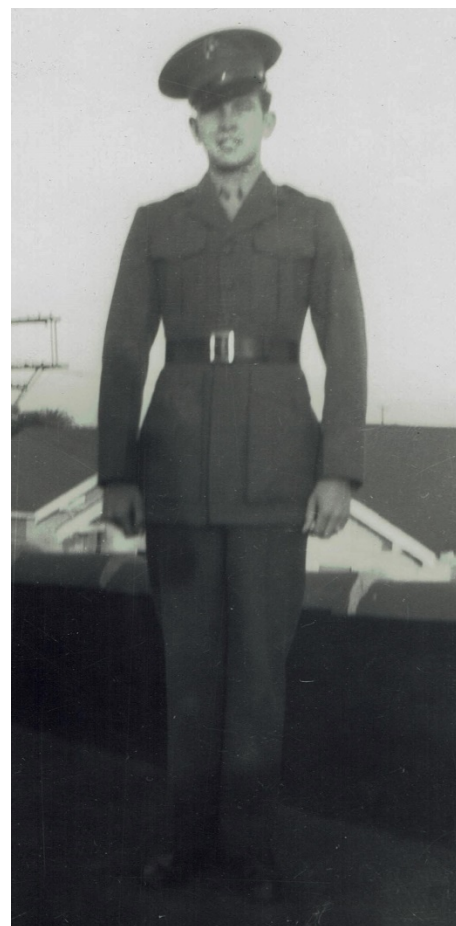




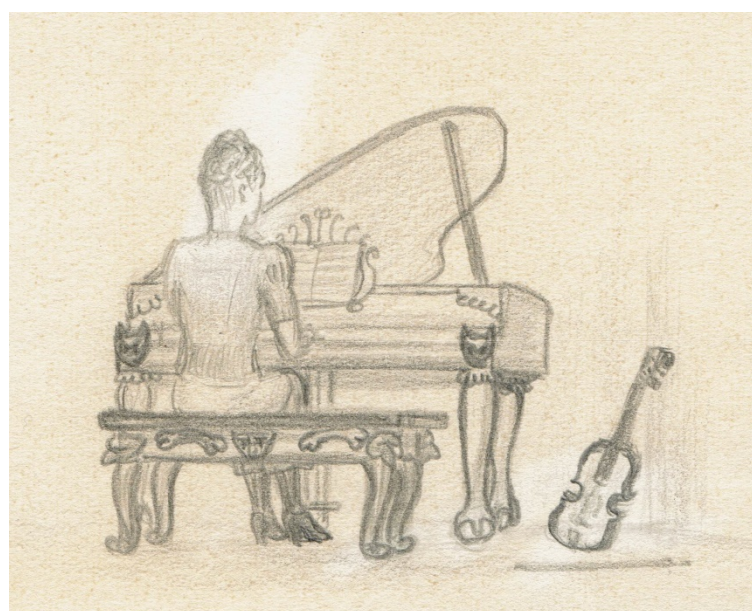
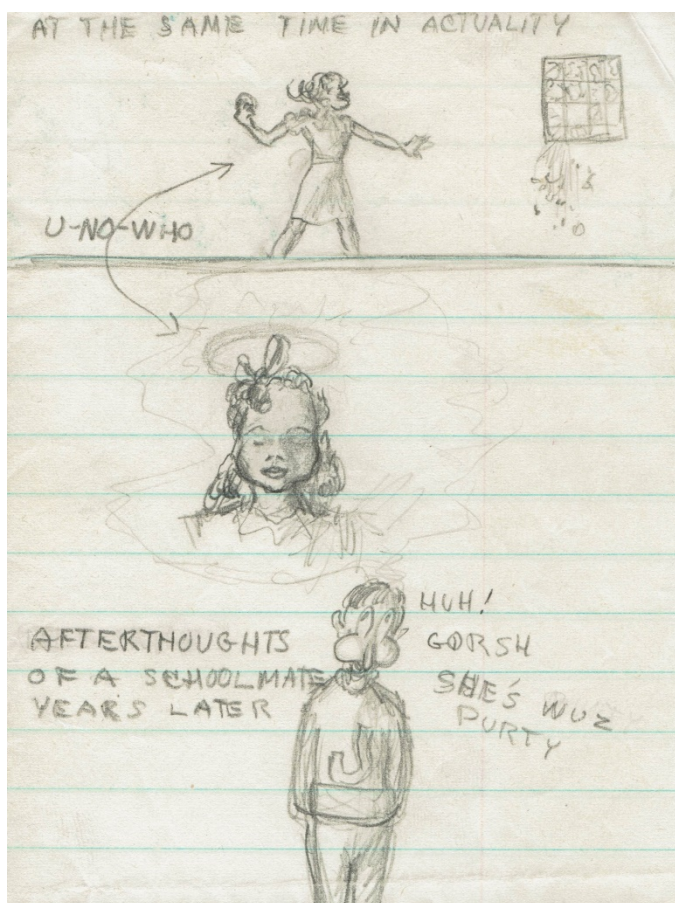
**George Duncan, age 15,
29 Sep 1940**



**George in Navy uniform with unknown
girl, 1944**



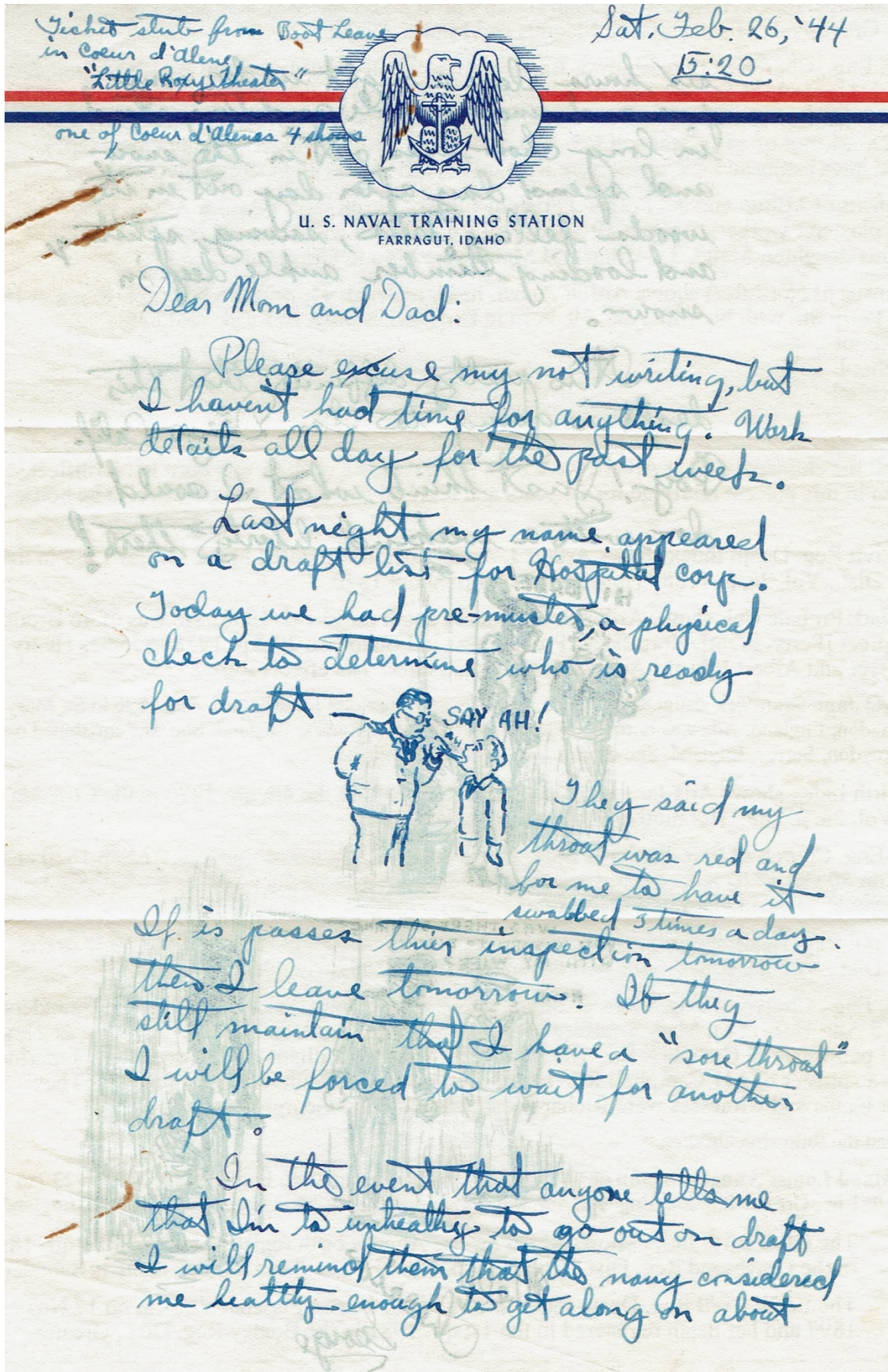
George in his Navy uniform



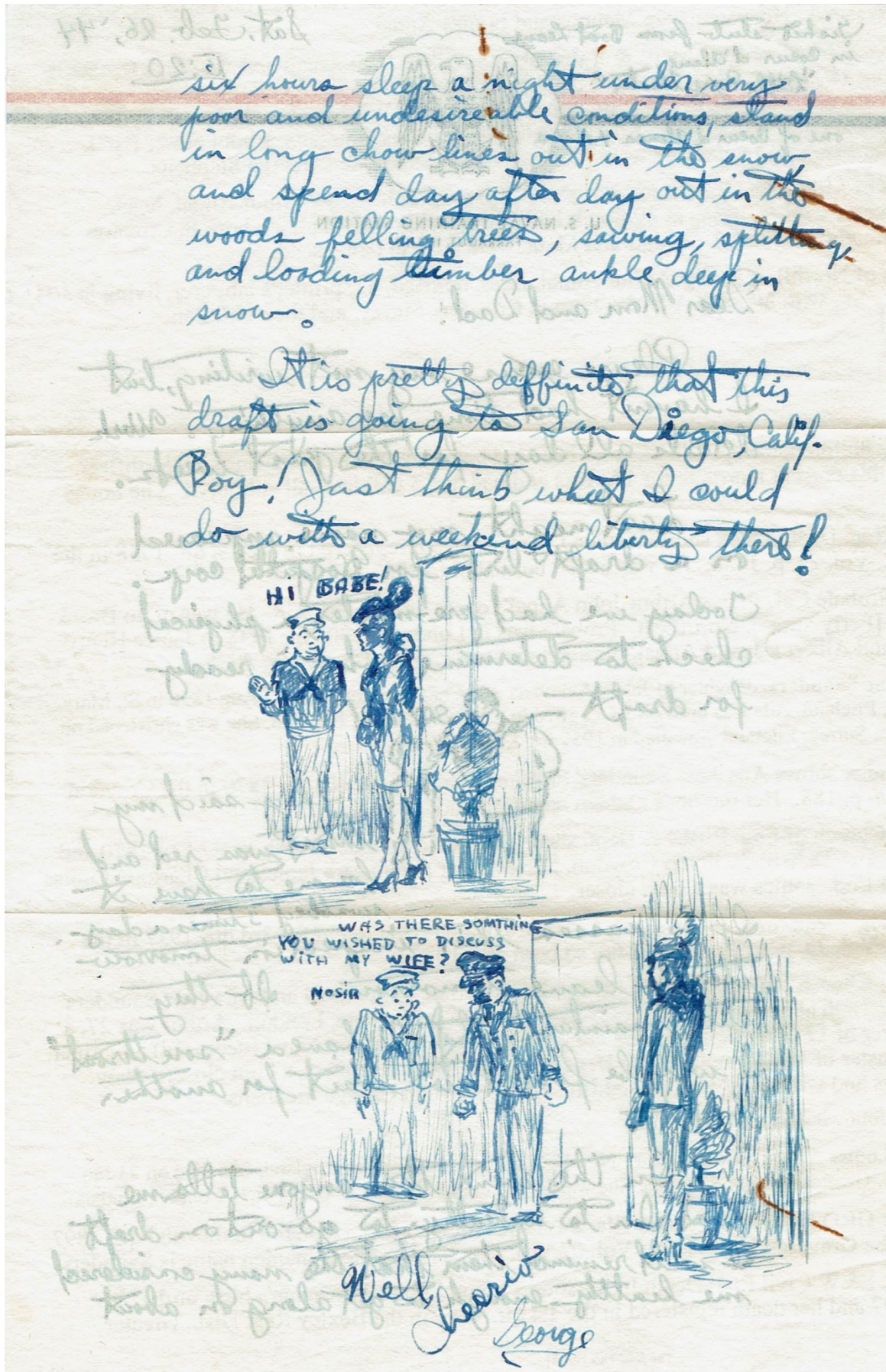
**George's sketch of his sister-in-law,
Ruth Duncan, playing the piano, 1941**

George's drawing of his niece, Lorraine Duncan, Nov 1941

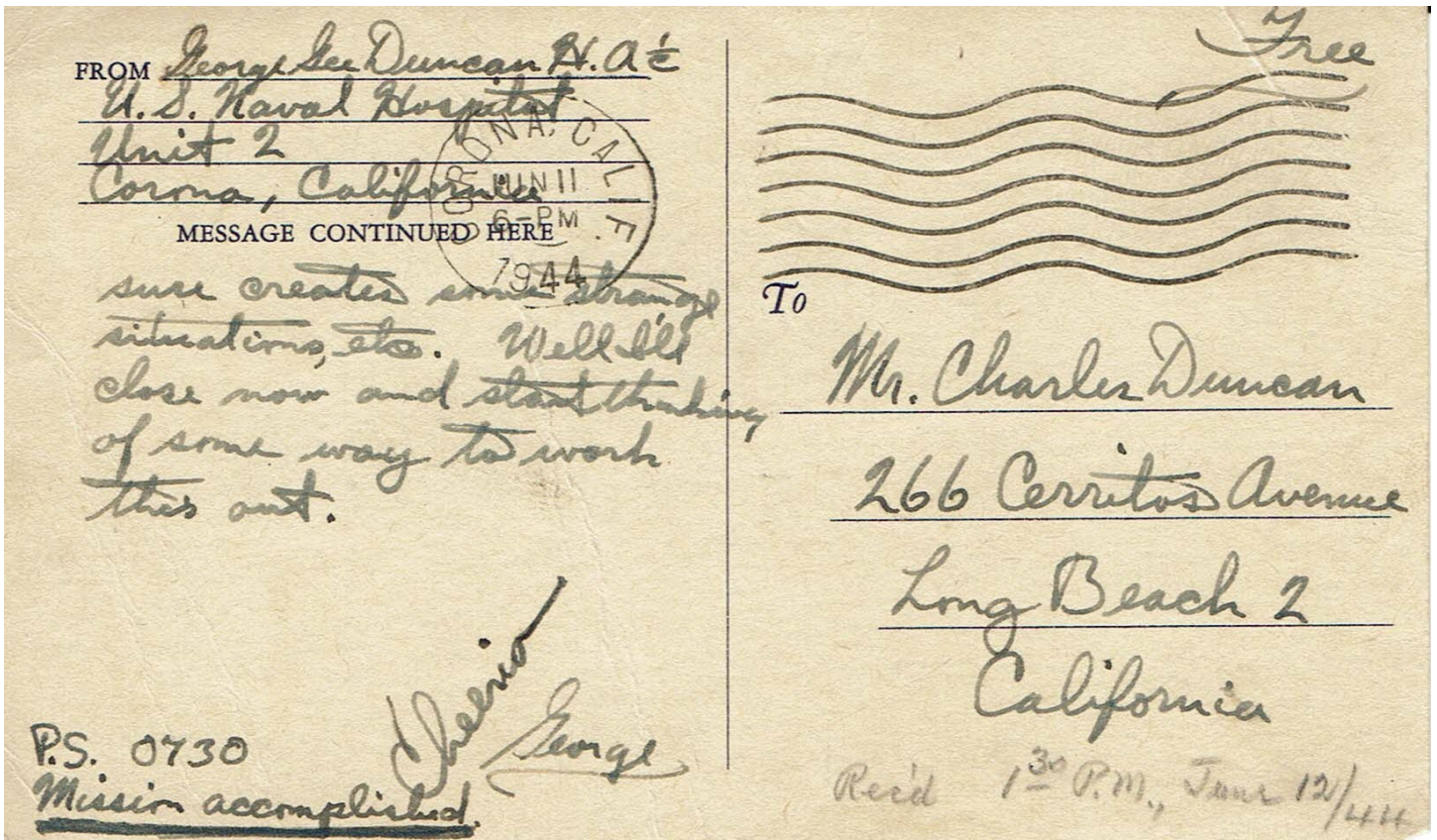
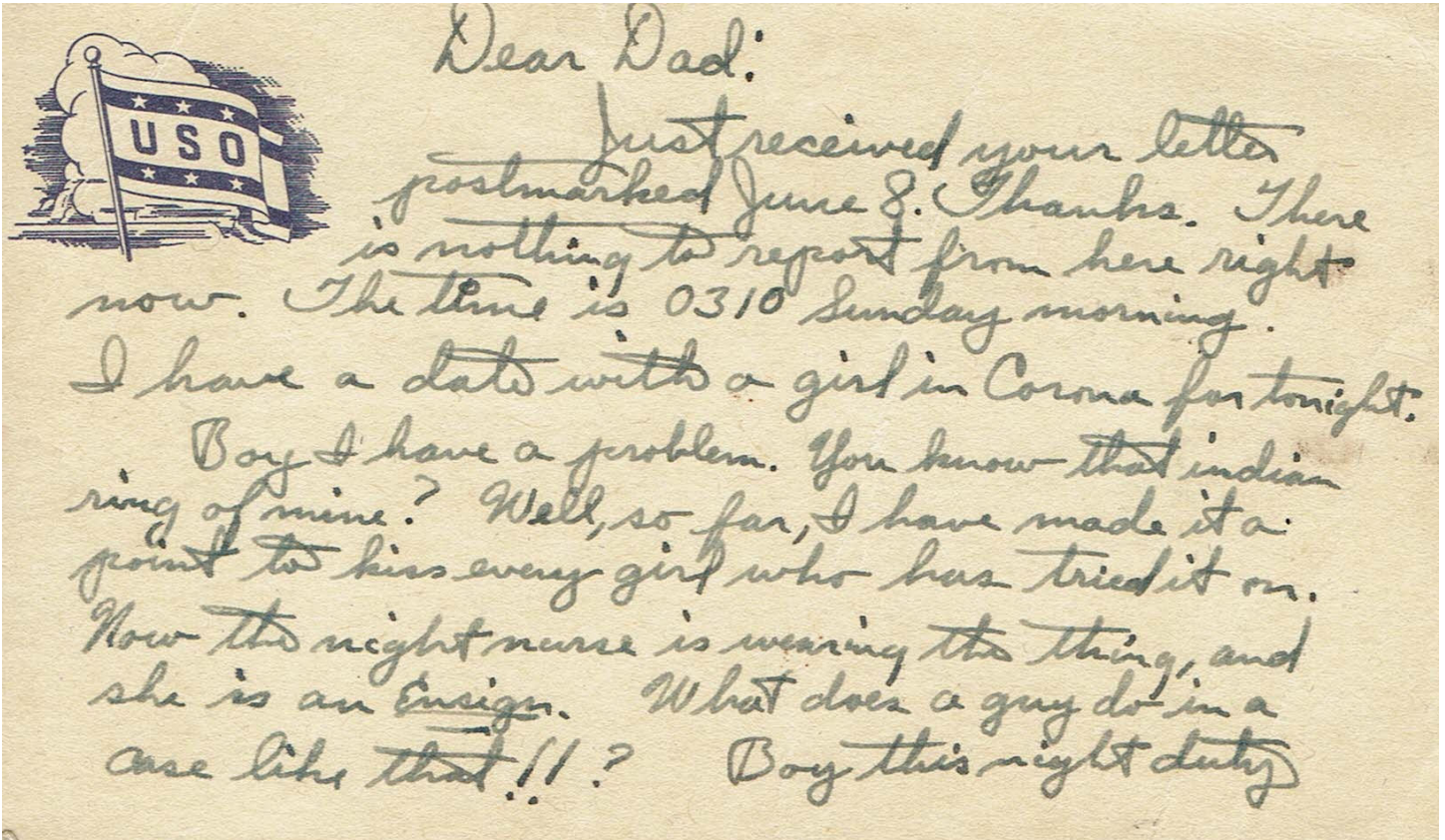
Letter from George to Charles and Fanny Duncan,
26 Feb 1944, p. 1



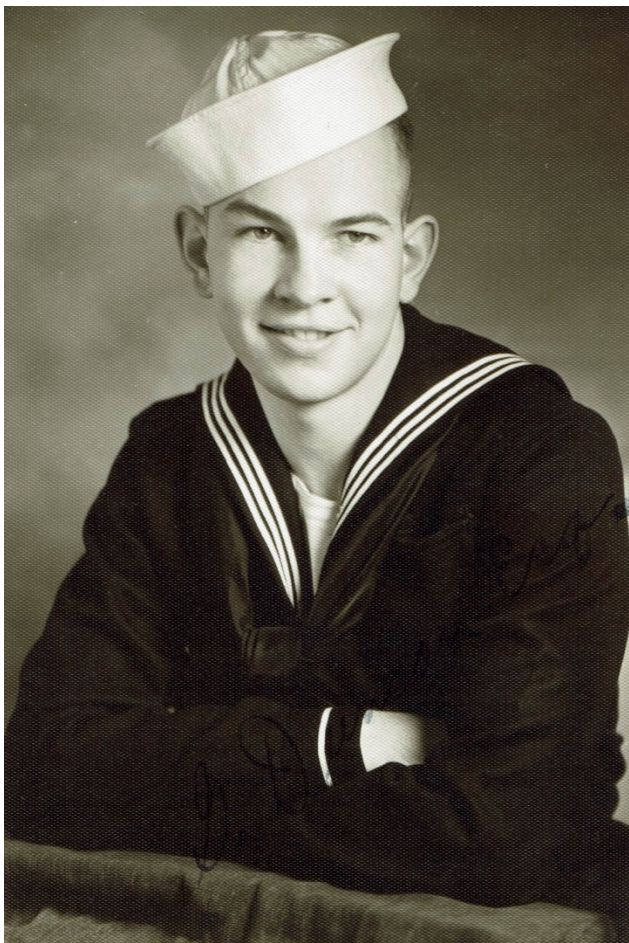
**Letter from George to Charles and Fanny Duncan,
26 Feb 1944, p. 2**



Postcard from George to Charles Duncan, 12 Jun 1944



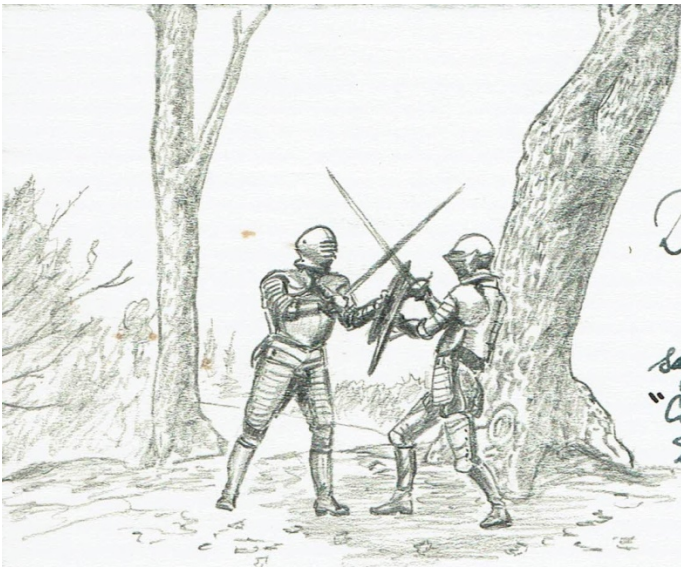
George Duncan in Navy uniforms



About 1945

Oct 1945

November 9th '49



Dear Charles, Ruth & Lorraine

Uh-Ruth, did you say in your last letter that "Chas. is fencing down in the oak grove."?

Yatz Yatz!

Received your letter of Nov. 5th today. Thanks lots for the photos! They did come out well. All the pictures we took (5 rolls) on the way home, and at your place, came out. Some were quite good too. Will have some more prints made and forward them.

Jean and I have been painting woodwork in our spare hours. Phew so much white paint and primer and paint smell all night!

Friday I'll work 5 hours at the Texaco Sta. where I trade so the operator can have time off. Dropped by the plant Sunday and the watchman said he looked for the plant to open maybe by the middle of December. Shipments have been pretty good and the silos a getting lower by the day. Here's hoping!

OVER

Gotta go pick up Jean now. Oh yes - it sprinkled all day today.

Cherio George



P. S. TOUCHE! Charles

George Duncan's wittiness and talent for drawing showed in his letters to his brother Charles, who was also artistic.

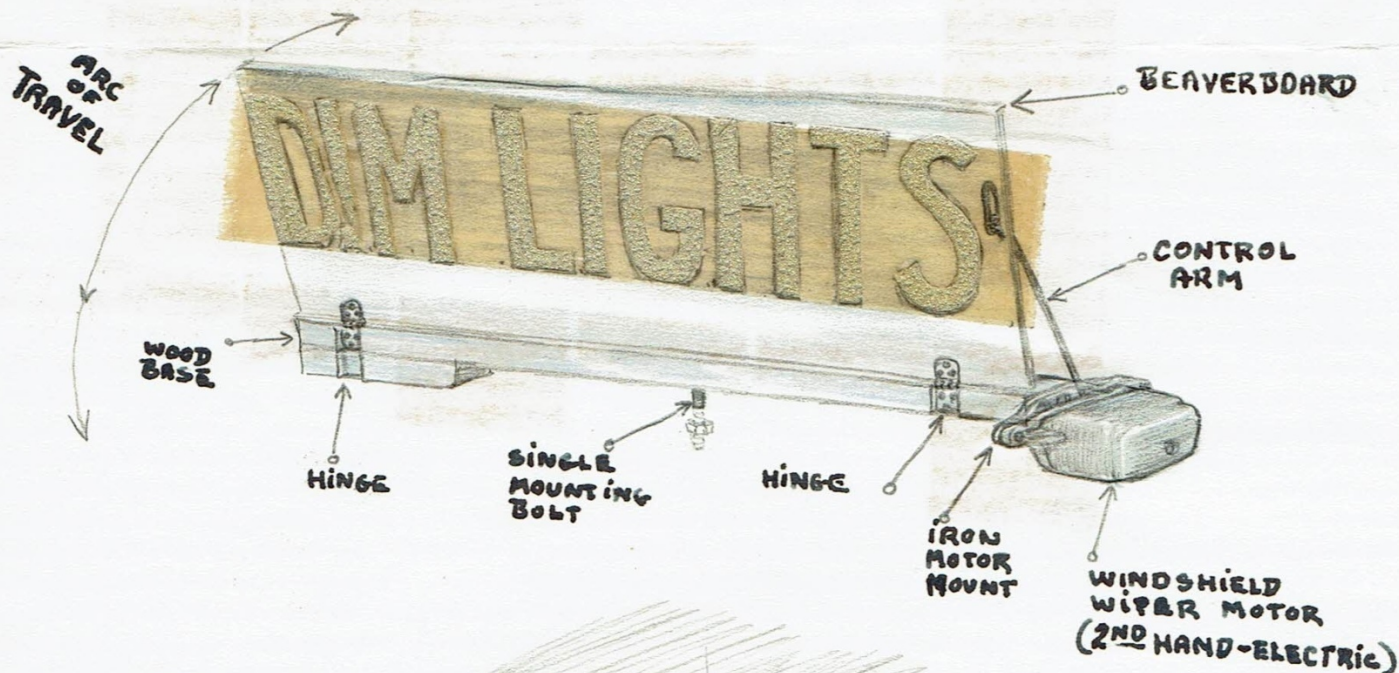
George Duncan's description of his invention for a sign he would light to remind drivers behind him to dim their high-beam lights. He and Charles shared this mechanical ability and cleverness.

Sat. Dec. 3rd '49

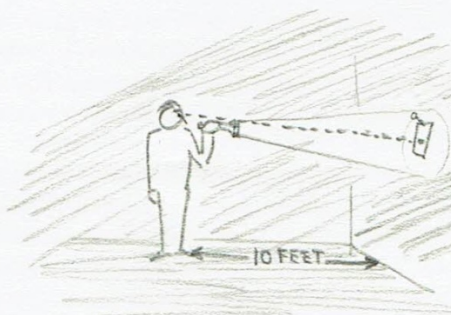
Dear Charles, Ruth, ^{2nd} Lorraine

Yesterday Jean reached 21 - finally!
Got her a floor lamp - shiny brass, 3 way
bulb, wide red shade.

Last night I completed one of my
wild inventions. It's a sign 19 inches long
with 4 inch high scotchlite letters saying
"Dim Lights". It mounts on the shelf in-
side rear car window and is controlled by
push button from drivers seat.



Pops up in rear
window thus.



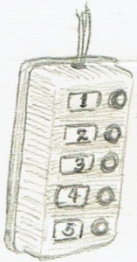
Hang letter in dark
room and hold flash-light
before face for miniature
demonstration of sign.

2.

It has long been a pet peeve of mine, the driver who gets behind you and doesn't dim his lights, so at last I have devised a method of notifying that inconsiderate shape of his breach of etiquette.

The sign is effective either stopped upright or waved up and down a few times. The latter giving a blinking sign effect.

The sign lays down out of the way on rear shelf when not in use and has no rattles or squeaks. Only a small whirring of the electric motor when in operation.



Have 4 more push buttons left on my control panel. Who knows what may come next?

Chris
George

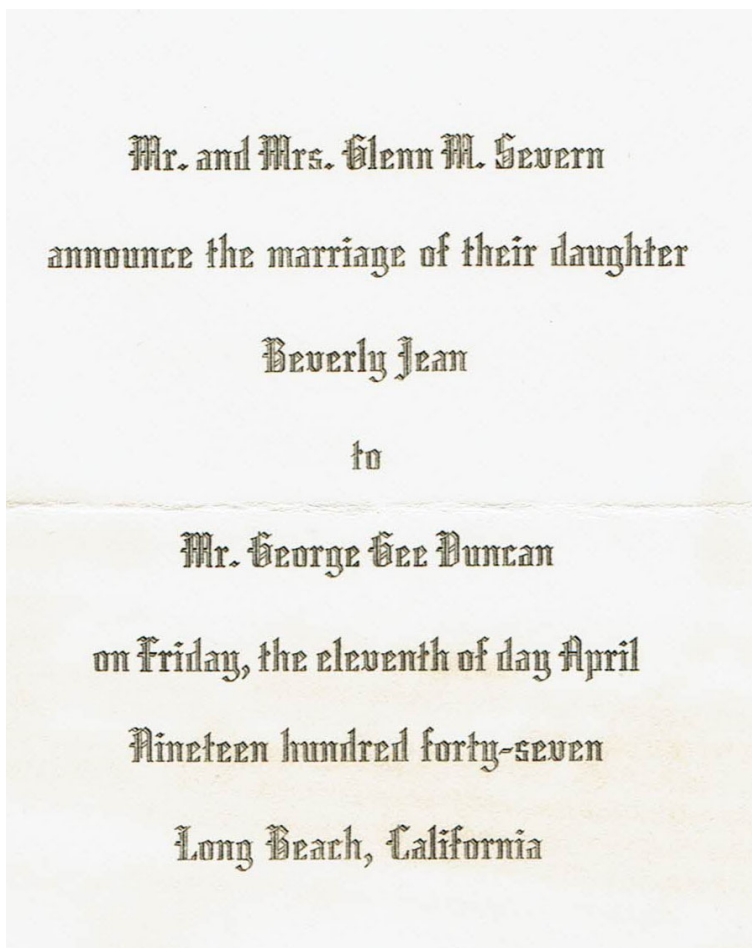
Continuation of 3 Dec 1949 letter George Duncan wrote to his brother Charles. It shows the control panel he used with the lighted sign in his car.

A random doodle by George.





**Wedding Day of George and Beverly Jean
Duncan, nee Severn,
Long Beach, California,
11 Apr 1947**



**George and Jean Duncan
on their wedding day
with their attendants
and oldest friends,
Dorothy Warren and
Don Stewart.**



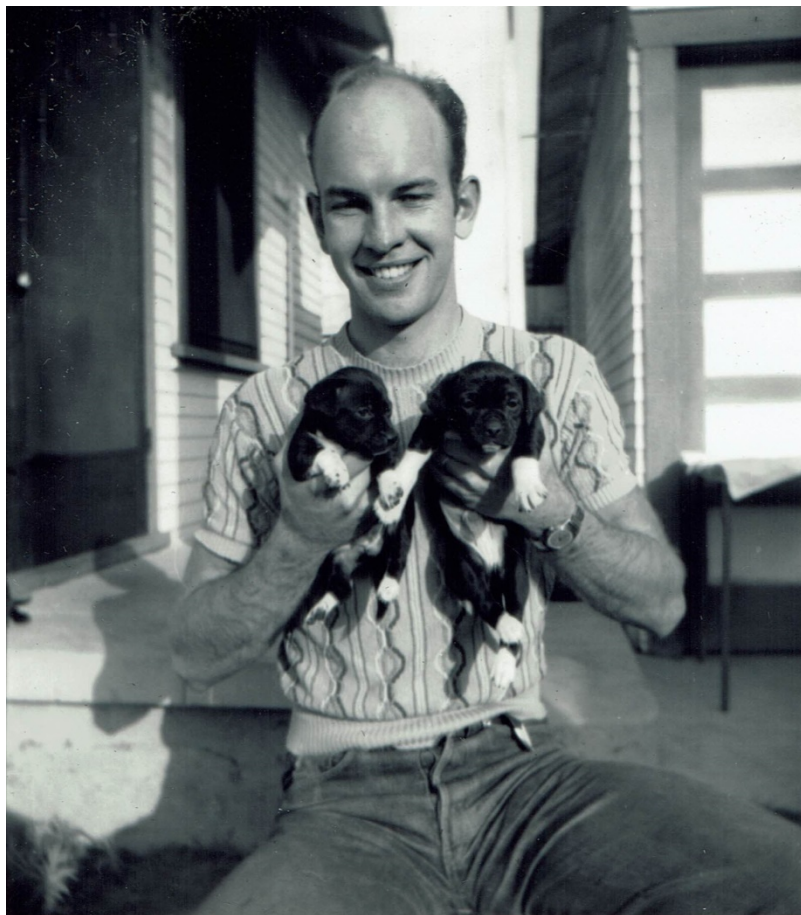
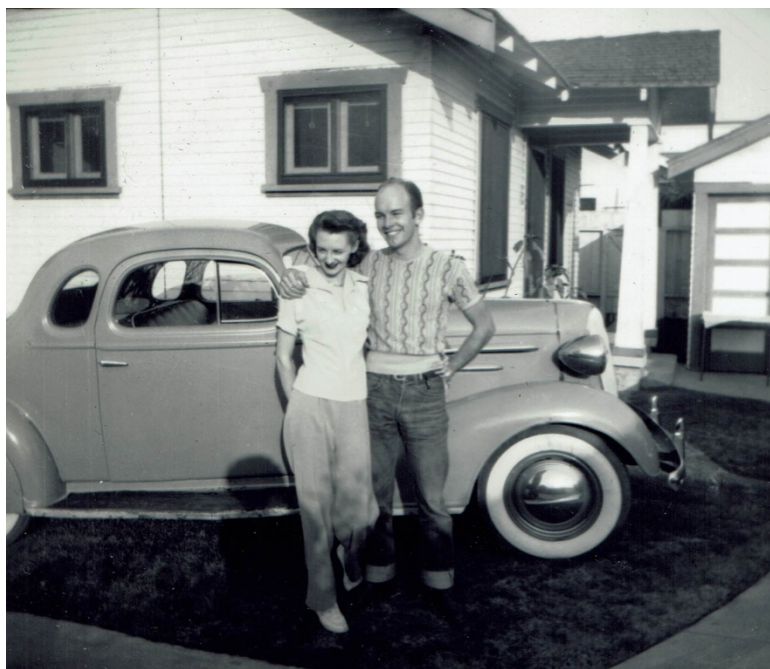


George and Jean Duncan's apartment on Spaulding St., Long Beach, July 1950



**George and Jean's new home, 5888 Pageantry, Long Beach, California,
where they lived from 1951 until her death in 1998**

**George and Jean Duncan at
5888 Pageantry, Long Beach, California, in 1951**

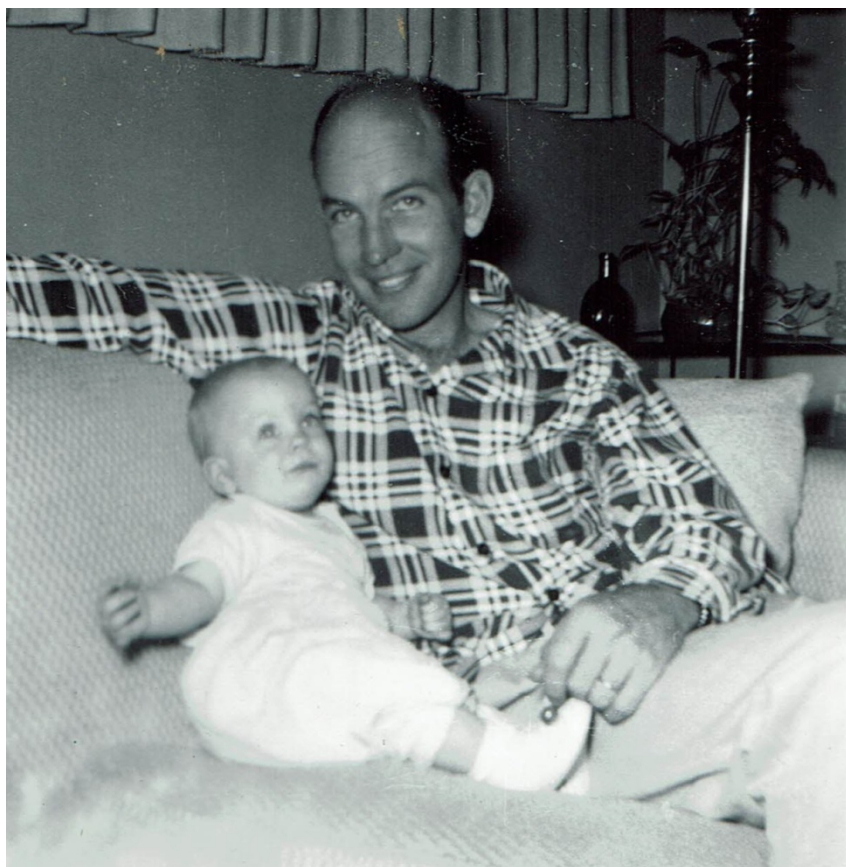




No 'Lost Time' Here



GREEN CROSS SAFETY FLAG is presented by C. R. Doyle, assistant superintendent of the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. plant at Wilmington, (left) to George Duncan, chairman of an employe safety group. Award was given after plant had 366 days without a lost-time accident. The banner will fly in the plant's courtyard except on days when there is a lost time mishap.—(Staff Photo.)



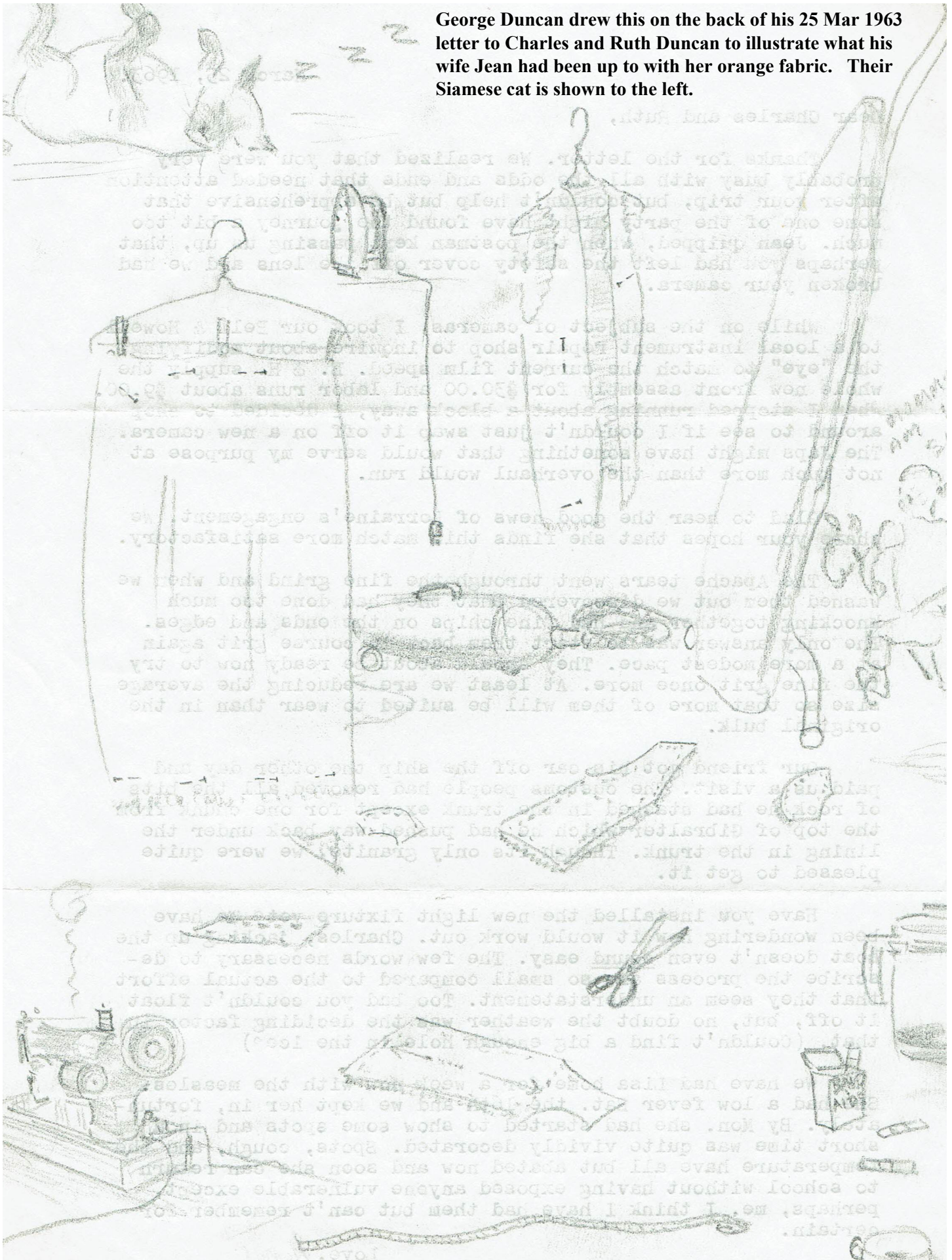
George with his daughter Lisa, 13 Apr 1956

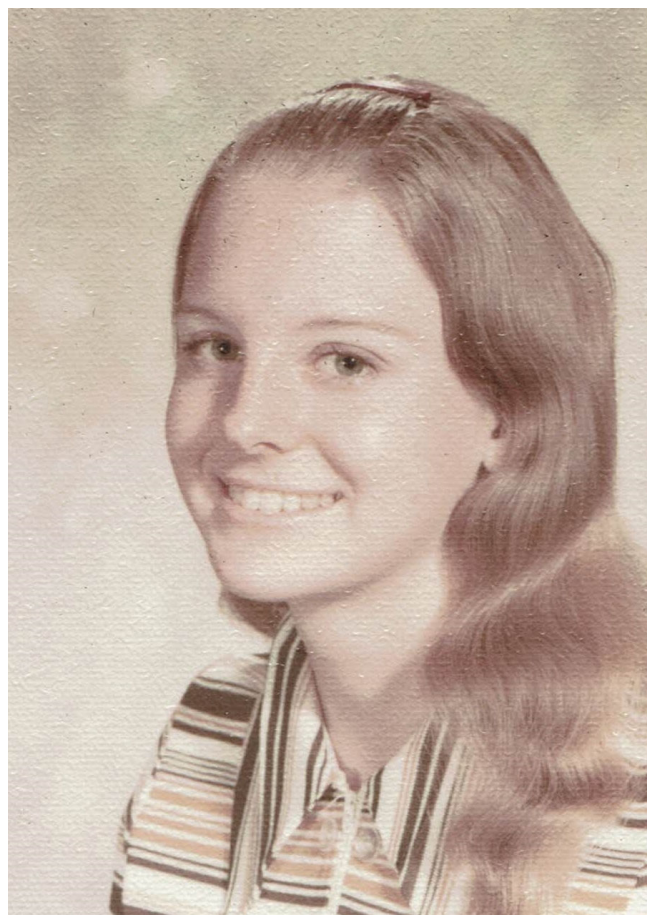
Newspaper clipping about George receiving his Green Cross flag for safety at Great Lakes Carbon Corp, 1 Dec 1954



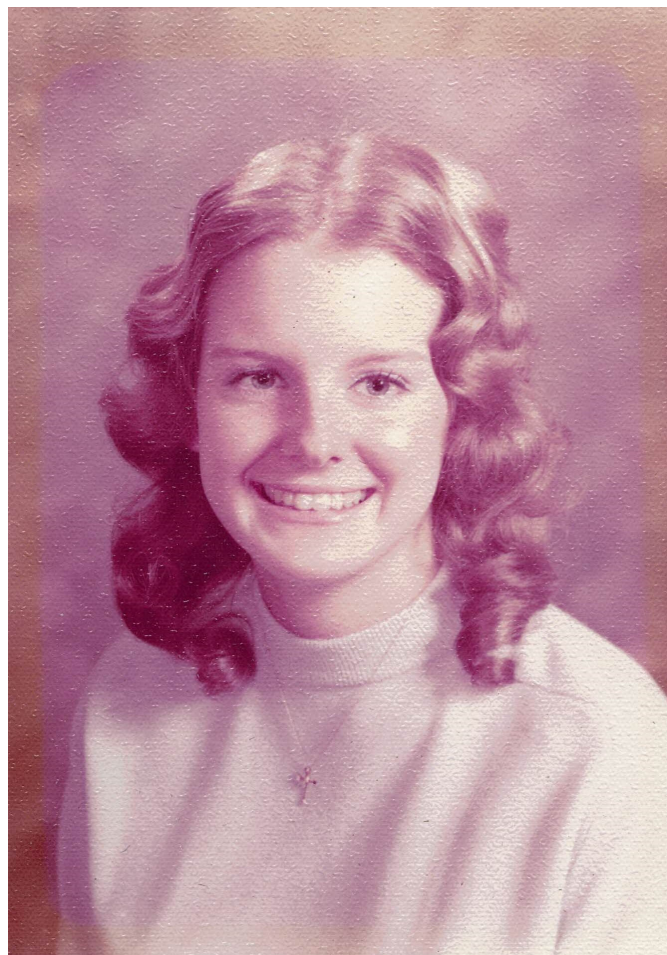
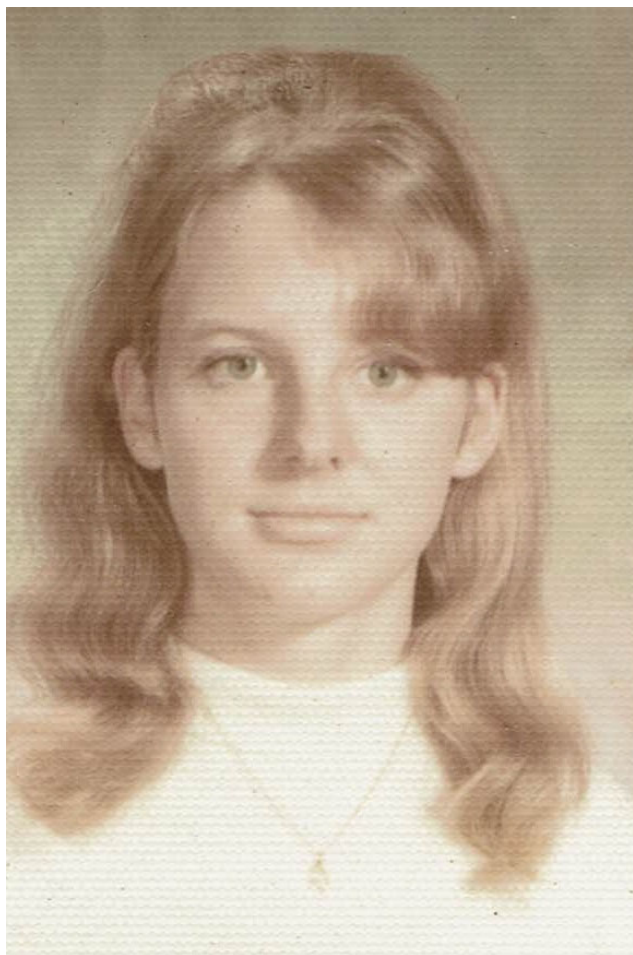
George holding a turtle by mine train in his backyard

George Duncan drew this on the back of his 25 Mar 1963 letter to Charles and Ruth Duncan to illustrate what his wife Jean had been up to with her orange fabric. Their Siamese cat is shown to the left.





Lisa Duncan





George, Jean and daughter Lisa in their backyard



George and Jean Duncan



George and Jean at their home, Oct 1975



**L. to R.: George, Jean and Ruth Duncan holding Happy
at Ruth and Charles' home in Laguna Niguel, 1975**



Jean Duncan at home, 1976



Jean and George Duncan on vacation in Oahu, Hawaii, Oct 1983



**Jean Duncan,
Oct 1983**



Jean and George Duncan, Mother's Day, 11 May 1986



**Jean Duncan and Ruth Duncan at Charles and Ruth's home
in San Juan Capistrano, 10 Oct 1987**



Jean Duncan at home, Dec 1995



**L to R: Ruth and Charles Duncan, George and Jean's
grandson, George and Jean Duncan at Charles and Ruth's
home in San Juan Capistrano on Charles' 80th birthday,
22 Apr 1990**



**Charles and George Duncan at the
same event at the left**

Jean Duncan's simple family tree shows her handwriting from a book from Sadie (sister of Frances Duncan, nee Gee). Note Charles' birth was shown in 1870, but unknown to his family, his actual birth year was 1872.

I'm sorry this is all I have. I copied it from Lisa's baby book. Sadie gave it to me and said it was all she knew about it. We looked thru Charles and George's Dad's papers but couldn't find anything else. He kept all his enlistment and discharge papers but nothing on his family could be found.

Jan

Mother

Frances Selina Gee

Feb. 4, 1888

to April 7, 1957

Charles)
Agnes)
George) born Albion Nehr (Boone Co.)
Bonanza precinct.

Grandfather

George William Gee Sr.
born 1846 Wellney, England

Grandmother

Adeline Lavina Carter
born 1854 New York State

Married July 30, 1909

Father

Charles Duncan
born Gravesend (Kent Co.) England

June 4, 1870

to

Jan. 29, 1947

Grandfather

Charles Duncan

Grandmother

Anne Cragg Sylvester

Jean Duncan's May 1982 letter to Charles and Ruth Duncan says she and George are separated, but he wants her to return. Jean thanked them for a wonderful brunch at her visit to their Indian Wells, California, home. [Charles' 2 May 1982 diary entry says he and Ruth treated Jean and Lorraine to brunch in La Quinta and that both had stayed with them the night before.]

Photos show George and Jean vacationing in Hawaii in Oct 1983.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 5 Aug 1984 diary entry says he and Ruth visited George and Jean and saw their newly remodeled house. His 26 Sep 1984 entry says George called [on George's 59th birthday] and said he would be given retirement from Great Lakes as the plant closed.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 13 Jul 1985 and 10 Oct 1987 diary entries say George and Jean visited them at their beach house.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 28 Aug 1993 diary entry says George called and said he had been to the doctor to check on spider veins on his chest and back and swelling of his chin area. They think it may be a tumor shutting off circulation.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 26 Sep 1993 diary entry says today is George's birthday and Charles and Ruth had suggested taking him and Jean out for lunch or dinner, but George said he had no appetite and was not in a festive mood. He has a couple of weeks of radiation for his cancer in his right upper chest. He is short of breath and has lost some weight.

Charles' 10 Jun 1994 diary entry says George checked into a hospital today and the 15 Jun 1994 entry says George is still in the hospital getting oxygen and being fed through a tube into his stomach. The 17 Jun entry says he left the hospital and is now in a nursing home. He then left for home still with a tube in his stomach, extra oxygen and IVs. The 9 Jul entry tells of George's death today at 11:15 a.m. after a long illness of cancer. Charles wrote that he didn't know George very well as they were so far apart in years [15 years], but he is sorry he died so young.

Lisa, George's daughter, told me he died at about 11:21 a.m. Sat., 9 Jul 1994 at Woodruff Hospital, Long Beach, California. He had lung cancer which was diagnosed in mid-1993 and spread to his esophagus and larynx. He had been a heavy smoker for many years.

The U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows George Gee Duncan's birth on 26 Sep 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska, and his death on 9 Jul 1994. His parents are Charles Duncan and Fanny S. Gee. In May 1941 his name was listed as George Gee Duncan and on 14 Jul 1994 his name was listed as George G. Duncan.

The California Death Index shows George Gee Duncan's birth on 26 Sep 1925 in Nebraska and his death on 9 Jul 1994 in Los Angeles County. His mother's maiden name is Gee.

George Duncan married **Beverly Jean "Jean" Severn**, daughter of Glenn Martin Severn and Anna Belle Buchanan, on 11 Apr 1947 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA. Jean was born on 2 Dec 1928 in York, York, Nebraska, USA. She died on 9 Sep 1998 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California, USA. *For more information about Jean's family, see the Severn section in Volume 4.*

The U.S. School Yearbooks, 1900-1999 show Beverly Jean Severn's senior photo in the 1945 El Aviador yearbook of Excelsior High School, Norwalk, California. Her activities were Big Sister 2-4 [sophomore-senior years], Senate, and Trial Flights 3 [junior year].



Frances Duncan's 4 May 1947 letter to Charles, Ruth and Lorraine Duncan said Jean seems like a sweet, lovable child and "we are all enjoying her." Jean has been working as a hostess, cashier and waitress at Knott's Berry Place [Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, California] and wants to continue working after their marriage. Frances agreed to keep house for them after they moved in with her after their marriage a few weeks earlier and has been very busy doing that.

An undated Christmas card [Dec 1947] written by Agnes Lohr, nee Duncan, to Ruth and Charles Duncan asks what they think of Jean who is very quiet. Agnes says she likes her a lot.

Frances' 4 May 1948 letter to Charles, Ruth, and Lorraine Duncan said Jean had her appendix removed at the Community Hospital on 25 Apr and her sister stayed with her and George when she was released from the hospital five days later. Jean belongs to Blue Cross [a health insurance company] where she works at Knott's and they paid for the operation.

Florence Johnson's 1972 and 1973 diary entries frequently mention Jean's high cholesterol, high fevers, and illnesses. The 16 Oct 1972 entry says Jean is very thin and not well. The 11 Oct 1973 entry says Jean has been in the hospital for about three weeks and the doctor finally decided to operate on her, but doesn't know what they found. The 25 Oct 1973 entry says Florence had seen her the day before and she looked awful. She is still running a temperature and has been in the hospital for about 40 days. The 15 Nov 1973 entry says Jean is home from the hospital now, but is still in very bad shape. She has to lie down or put her feet up or something. The 1 Jan 1974 entry says Jean is still in bad shape and can't move around much. The doctor can't seem to do much for her.

Silvia Henderson's 12 Jan 1979 letter to Ruth and Charles Duncan says she is glad Jean's ulcer on her ankle is healed and wonders if Jean will take care of Lisa's little boy while Lisa is at work.

George and Jean's Golden Wedding Anniversary card to Charles and Ruth Duncan [June 1987] says on George and Jean's 40th anniversary [Apr 1987] Jean came home from the hospital and didn't celebrate, but it was good to be together.

George Duncan's 1 Sep 1990 post card to Charles and Ruth Duncan at 26401 Calle Roberto, San Juan Capistrano, California, says Jean's back is better. George and Jean were in Cambria, California, visiting their daughter Lisa and family in their new rental home.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 9 Jul 1994 diary entry says he, Ruth, and I drove to Long Beach to see Jean and Lisa as George died the day before. Jean looked very frail and old and had lost a lot of weight. Her left leg looked very bad and Charles hopes she will be able to make it alright. Charles and Ruth visited her again on 29 Jul 1994 and helped with her bookkeeping.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 17 Oct 1994 diary entry says Ruth and Charles tried calling Jean, but then called Lisa who said Jean was in a convalescent hospital as she had fallen and broken a rib.

Charles Duncan, Jr.'s 1 Aug 1998 diary entry says Lisa called and said Jean was failing.

Lisa's 9 Sep 1998 phone call to me said her mother had just died at a hospice facility at age 69. She died of emphysema, circulatory problems and severe breathing problems. She had not eaten or drunk liquids for about a week as she couldn't swallow.

The Social Security Death Index transcr. shows Beverly J. Duncan's birth on 2 Dec 1928 and her death in Sep 1998 in California. Her last residence was in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California.

The U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows the birth of Beverly Jean Severn (aka Beverly Jean Duncan) on 2 Dec 1928 in York, York, Nebraska, and her death in Sep 1998. Her parents are Glenn M. Severn and Anna B. Buchanan. In Jun 1943 her name was listed as Beverly Jean Severn. In Apr 1947 her name was listed as Beverly Jean Duncan. On 6 Nov 1998 her name was listed as Beverly J. Duncan.

2. **Annie "Ti" Henderson** (John Henry) was born on 11 Sep 1874 in Milton, Kent, England. She died on 27 May 1974 in Feurs, Loire, France.

Annie Henderson's birth certificate shows she was born on 11 Sep 1874 at 14 Prospect Grove, Milton. Her parents are John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Henderson, formerly Silvester. John was a waterman and of the same address.

*****JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S DIARIES*****
For Years 1876, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1893 and 1894
show the following entries relevant to his daughter Annie Henderson

1876, age 1-2

Fri 7 Jan "I brought Tiny [nicknamed Ti or Tiny as she was so tiny as a baby] a doll."
Fr 19 May "Brought Tiny a basket."
Sat 11 Nov "Bought Tiny a doll."

1886, age 11-12

Mon 1 Feb "I came home and finished Tiny's dolls house."
Wed 24 Feb "Made Tiny a battledor [like a badminton racket] in the afternoon."
Tue 26 Oct "Tiny went to singing class."

1888, age 13

Mon 18 Jun "Mr. Gutteridge called to day & I arranged for the three girls to go to his school."
Mon 25 Jun "The girls Tiny, Clara, & Rosa went to Mr. Gutteridge's school for the first time to day."

1889, age 14-15

Tues 10 Sep "Bought a brush & comb to make Tiny a present, tomorrow being her birthday."
Wed 11 Sep "This is Tinys birthday so made her a few presents this morning first thing."

1890, age 15

Wed 9 Apr "Tiny has been to London to day. Also with her teacher to see their drawings, Tiny having obtained a medal."
Thurs 17 Jul "It being Leo's birthday, I took him up to the City to the Stores. Bought him some roller skates & paints for Tiny."

1891, age 16-17

Sat 25 Apr "Met Tiny, Alice Archer, & and Louie Goddard home from Geometry exam at the Board school."
Thurs 20 Sep "Tiny went to Practice after supper."

John Henry Henderson's 1892 diary was apparently destroyed.

1893, age 19

Sat 23 Sep "Went to London by 8.18 train No. Kent line to see the place were [where] Tiny's examination for Civil Service was to be held. I found it. Then walked down Strand to Somerset House. Bought a 6/- stamp for her."

1894, age 19-20

Wed 14 Mar "Tiny finished her civil service exam to day."
Wed 3 Oct "Tiny went to Choral practice."
Mon 10 Dec "Tiny went to Choral societys swarrie [soiree] in the evening."

*****End of JOHN HENRY HENDERSON'S DIARY Entries for daughter Annie*****

Silvia Henderson's Christmas 8 Nov 1958 letter to Ruth Duncan says, "Going through the music case last week I came across duets that Charles & Annie [Vernon and Annie Henderson] used to play together as children, written in Dad's [John Henry Henderson's] handwriting their names & the year 1884. I believe they were pretty good at music, & the choirs they sang in used to contest with other choirs at the Crystal



Palace in London."

Kathleen Barry told me in late Jun 1982 that Ti went to France when she was about 17 years old [diary entries show she was still at home at age 20] to work as a secretary. She lived in a hospice in her later years.

Silvia Henderson's 1 Dec 1984 letter to Ruth and Charles Duncan says there is a bit of artist running through the family as her sisters Annie [see 1890 diary entry] and Rose both painted good pictures, as does her niece Kathleen.

Dot Schultz's 2 Aug 1922 letter to brother Frank says she hasn't heard from Ti lately, but understands she moved from the pharmacy and that John has just passed another exam. Silv is going over to stay with Ti this month. Win comes home 8 Aug on holiday.

Silvia Henderson's 1 Jan 1942 letter to her brother Frank says they have not heard from Ti since Apr 1941 when they were all well.

Silvia's 7 Oct 1942 letter to her brother Frank says she received a letter a few weeks ago from Ti who said John visits his mother occasionally.

A postcard in 1948 was addressed to Silvia Henderson in care of Mrs. Thorat at le chalet Bar-ur Banel (sp?), France.

Babeth Dinot's 30 Jan 1999 letter says her mother-in-law, Annie, liked to live alone, but she lived with her and her husband in 1950 or 1951.

Clare Henderson's 9 Dec 1953 letter to Ruth Duncan said her sister in France married into a family that were silk manufacturers, but now they no longer make real silk, but only artificial materials. Her only son is a chemist and a bachelor.

Silvia's 14 Aug 1955 letter to Ruth Duncan says "Ti is now over eighty years old, & has lived in France for 60 years, but still looks upon England as "Home & Beauty", and enjoys playing the piano & a sing-song. When I've over there with her we do quite a bit of self-amusement that way. Old songs & tunes carry one back to days at home. Her son John plays the "flute" & she accompanies him on the piano. "

Silvia's 20 Oct 1957 letter to Ruth Duncan says she visited her sister Annie, who is 82 years young. She is very well and has a young face with no wrinkles and a fine fresh colour in her cheeks, although she says her eyes are not so good and her knees are a bit troublesome.

Silvia's 20 Apr 1958 letter to Ruth Duncan says she went to visit Ti in France this summer. Ti lives in a tiny village in the Department of the Loire.

Silvia's 9 Dec 1959 letter to Ruth and Charles Duncan says a day or two ago she received a letter from her sister Ti saying she was well. It had been a dry summer and their well was not yet up to a normal level. She lives in a very small village in the department of the Loire. The only industry besides farming used to be a silk factory using silk worms reared in the south of France. Then nearly every cottage had its hand loom working and weaving, but now it is all electrically driven and the products are rayon and not nearly as beautiful as the gorgeous silk they used to make.

Silvia's 1963 Christmas card to Ruth Duncan says Ti is in France and age 89, but still able to get around the village. Her son's cousin, Hippolyte, age 65, died after an operation for peritonitis recently. "He had been running the one factory in this little village of Jarnosse, & employed most of the inhabitants. In the old days they used to manufacture real silk materials, beautiful stuff, woven from the thread of the silk worm, and in lovely colours too. They supplied some of the big shops in Lyon. Most of the villagers had hand looms in their cottages. Now, there is very little real silk woven, it's mostly rayon & such fabrics & all the looms are electrically powered. Now since Hippolyte's death, the whole village wonders, who will run the factory? Other than the factory, it is mostly farm land & vineyards [vineyards], for each family usually makes enough wine [for] his own use, ordinary red wine."

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON

Application Number..... 5738 H

REGISTRATION DISTRICT										
1874 BIRTH in the Sub-district of <i>Gravesend</i> in the <i>Parish of St. Peter</i>										
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
139	<i>St. Peter's, 1874</i>	<i>Annie</i>	<i>Girl</i>	<i>John Henry Henderson</i>	<i>Ann Craggs Henderson</i>	<i>Mariner</i>	<i>John Henderson, 14 Prospect Place, Milton.</i>	<i>October, 1874</i>	<i>Richard G. Henderson Registrar</i>	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the *5th* day of *July* 19 *78*

*See note overleaf

BXA 386217

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

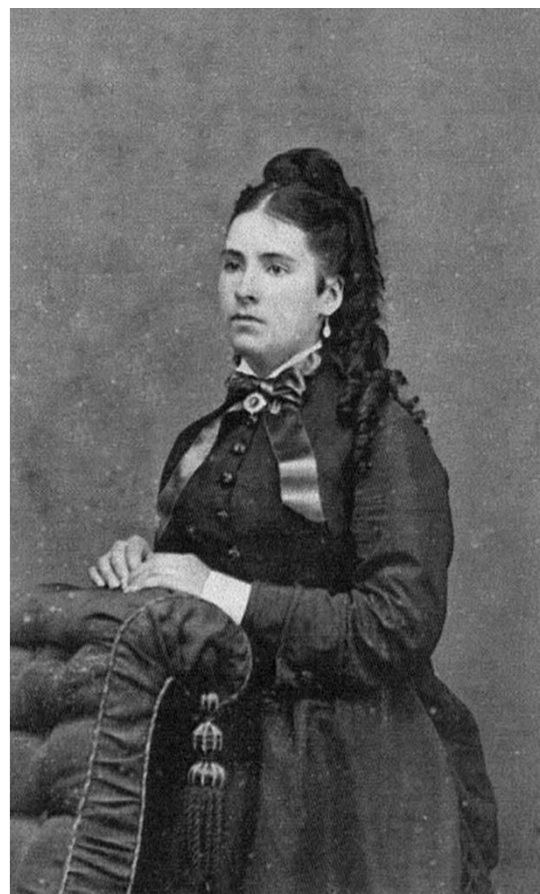
CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

Form A.502M S.37025 Dd 534087 90M 7/78 HW





**Pierre Hippolyte Dinet and Annie Henderson were married
9 Mar 1901 at the Church of St. Philippe du Roule Faubourg,
St. Honore, Paris, France**



Annie Henderson (1874-1974)



**Left:
Annie and Pierre
Hippolyte Dinet
with baby Jean
Henri Dinet**



**Right:
Annie and son
John (Jean Dinet),
probably at
3 Bronte Villas**

Madame (Annie or Ti) Thorald, née Henderson



June 1933



**On her 80th birthday in 1954,
Jarnosse, Loire, France**



**Postcard showing Jarnosse,
Loire, France, written by
Annie Thorald to Ruth Greet
on 27 Dec 1965.**

**"A photo from aeroplane of
our little village. My house
which belongs to my son
John is behind the church.
Best wishes for all, Annie Ti
A. Thorald"**

Madame Elisabeth Razuret-Duparchy et
Monsieur Jean Dinet ont l'honneur de vous faire
part de leur mariage qui a été célébré dans la plus
stricte intimité le 2 juin 1960, en l'église Saint-Pothin,
à Lyon.

28, rue Pierre-Corneille, Lyon-6^e

Feurs (Loire)

**Marriage Announcement of
Elisabeth Razuret-Duparchy
to Jean Henri Dinet**

Annie Thoral, age 94, Elisabeth Dinet, née Razuret, and Annie's son Jean Henri Dinet in Jarnosse in June 1969



Annie Thoral, née Henderson



^{Time Henderson aged 99 - 10 months}
 Lundi 1^{ère} Avril 1974

Maison de Retraite,
 Fours, (Loire)

My dear Sil:-

Was so glad to receive your letter of the 12th March and to ~~know~~ know that all is well with you. You don't say it in so many words but to know that you have been able to stay a few days with Kathleen shows me that all is well with you and Mally as well as with Kathleen and her family. Am so glad Springtime and sunshine are coming back and the dry Chale

a change in the ⁽³⁾ every day life and you can return with re-renewed zeal to every day habits of living.

About myself I am getting very tired and weary of life. Not at all that I have reason to complain for I am keeping exceptionally well I am looked upon as a kind of prodige working round the hospital batiments every afternoon but not going in town alone: too much traffic.

My hair is white as snow but looks and keeps B.K as well as my cheeks.

Heating will soon ⁽²⁾ be shut off for a sunny warmth which is so much healthier. I have not turned on my radiator since a day or two already.

Babeth is back at Lyons but I have not seen her yet here. I expect she is getting ready for the Easter holidays with her family at Garmosse. I have received two fine cards from Africa also.

Am so glad to hear that you have been able to go and pass a few days with Kathleen it makes a

1 Apr 1974
 letter from
 Annie Thoral
 at age 99
 to Silvia
 Henderson

Shows her
 mental
 acuity, wit,
 and
 handwriting
 at this age

so I feel sometimes ⁽⁴⁾ like the lassie of
 "Coming through
 the rye."

Many thanks for your paper about our Prince Charles and his portrait. Have shown it to a lot of friends here and all are interested. and admire our future R O I.

My neighbours in front smiled happily on receiving your salutation & said "Bons Voeux!"
 How best time and many thoughts & love from M

Silvia's Christmas 1968 card to Ruth and Charles Duncan says Annie still writes a very good letter with current news of the world and has a good memory. Annie was 94 last September.

Silvia's 12 Apr 1969 letter to Ruth and Charles Duncan says Ti is 94 and remembers playing a piano duet with her father when she was a little girl at a local church concert. But Ti's eyesight is not good now.

Silvia's 7 Dec 1970 letter to Ruth & Charles "Then came word from France that their oldest sister Annie (Ti) had had a heart attack, so Silvia hurriedly made a flying visit there, hardly expecting to see her, but she has made a wonderful come back at age 96. She only complains of poor eyesight (cataract?)."

A letter of 1 Apr 1974 from Annie (Ti) Thoral written to her sister, Silvia Henderson, has a return address of Maison de Retraite, Feurs (Loire), France. Her handwriting is very shaky, but fairly legible. She refers to Silvia staying with Kathleen and mentions Molly. She says she is very tired and weary of life, but is keeping exceptionally well, walks fine, and can walk up and down stairs without difficulty. Babeth is back at Lyon, but she hasn't seen her yet. Babeth has her family at Jarnosse. Ti says she received two cards from Africa and Babeth returned from Africa. Ti would like to go to Jarnosse while Babeth and family are there at Easter.

Silvia's 15 Jun 1974 letter to Ruth Duncan says her eldest sister Annie died on 27 May in France. She would have been 100 on 11 Sep 1974. Her last letter said she felt she was declining and said "Goodbye". She asked for her case to pack as her son was coming for her (John, her son, died in 1969). A few days later Babeth (John's wife) wrote and told Silvia she had died peacefully and without pain. Babeth saw to all the final arrangements.

Silvia's other letters say Annie was born in Sep 1874 and had lived in France since 1894. She lived in the Dept. of the Loire and then at Feurs in 1972. She had a married Aunt Jeannie [maybe Danielle's sister Jeanne?]. She died in May 1974 in France, possibly in Feurs or Jarnosse. Annie married a Mr. Thoral.

A letter of 22 Feb 1989 from Symons & Gay, solicitors, in re: estate of John Henry Henderson, stated that Rosa Kate Henderson Symons died before her sister Annie. It states that Annie Henderson's husband was Mr. Thoral, a French citizen, who died before his wife died on 27 May 1974. Mr. Thoral had a son who died before his mother and had no children.

Annie Thoral's death certificate shows she died on 27 May 1974 at 9:00 at Roanne Street, Jarnosse, Loire. She was born 11 Sep 1874 in Milton to John Henry Henderson and Anne Craggs Silvester. She was the widow of Louis Victor Thoral.

An obituary from a French newspaper shows that Annie was buried 19 [29 maybe?] May 1974 [note her death on 27 May 1974] at a cemetery in Jarnosse. She was a widow of Mr. Dinet and Mr. Thoral. She died in Feurs at 100 years of age. She was born 11 Sep 1874 in England. Numerous people attended the funeral. Survivors include the widow of her son Jean Dinet. All the family were offered sincere condolences.

N° 53

DECES NON DE :

HENDERSON Annie.

Avis adressé à Mr le Maire de JARNOSSE (loire);
le 28 mai 1974 -

Pour copie certifiée
conforme à l'original

FEURS, le 25 ^{juin} 1999
Le Maire

[Signature]



Death Certificate
(portion of?)
showing
Annie Henderson's
death

Annie Thoral's 1974
obituary in French

See her notes for
translation



L. to R.: Danielle Matray (Elisabeth's daughter), Silvia Henderson (Annie's sister), and Elisabeth Dinet (Annie's daughter-in-law) by a church in Folkestone in 1982



L. to R.: Elisabeth Dinet, Silvia Henderson, Olivier Matray (Danielle's son)



L. to R.: Elisabeth Dinet, Silvia Henderson, Lorraine Schmidt (Silvia's great niece)



Silvia Henderson and Elisabeth Dinet

Annie "Ti" Henderson married **Pierre Hippolyte Dinet**, son of Claude Marie Joseph Dinet and Philiberte Julie Dumas, on 9 Mar 1901 in Church of St. Philippe du Roule, Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, Paris, France.

The Paris, France & Vicinity Marriage Banns, 1860-1902, shows banns for Annie Henderson's marriage to Pierre Hypolite [Hippolyte] Dinet on 10 Feb 1901. His parents are Claude Marie Joseph Dinet and Philiberte Julie Dumas. Her parents are John Henry and Ann Craggs Silvester. Annie's address was 170 (illegible Fg St) Honoré and Pierre's address was Roanne (sp?) Soire (sp?).

The Henderson family Bible, owned by and read at the home of Molly Bridgwater and copied by Sara Bunnett, states Hippolyte Dinet and Annie Henderson were married 9 Mar 1901 at the Civil Court for Marriage Paris and also at church of St. Philippe du Roule, Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, Paris, on the same day.

Silvia Henderson's 19 Jan 1981 letter to Ruth and Charles Duncan says when she was seven years old, she used to pick grapes for her brother-in-law in France. She would pick the ones that had fallen on the ground as he didn't like to see any lost. Hippolyte was a chemist and very careful of detail.

Annie and Pierre Dinet had the following child, who had no children.

- i. **Jean Henri Dinet** was born on 21 Jul 1904 in Rouanne, Loire, France. He died on 19 Dec 1969.

Information copied by Sarah Bunnett from the Henderson family Bible owned by and read at the home of Molly Bridgwater shows Jean Henri Dinet was born 21 Jul 1904 in Rouanne, Loire, France. His parents were Annie Henderson and Hippolyte Dinet.

Babeth Dinet's 30 Jan 1999 letter says her husband, Jean Henri Dinet, was born on 21 Jul 1904.

Clare Henderson's 9 Dec 1953 letter to Ruth Duncan said her sister in France has an only son who is a chemist and a bachelor.

Babeth's 13 Jan 2000 letter to me says her husband Jean had never been married when she married him in 1960.

A translation of a French announcement of Jean Dinet's marriage to Elisabeth Razuret-Duparchy reads:

Madame Elisabeth Razuret-Duparchy and Monsieur Jean Dinet have the honor to inform you of their marriage which was celebrated in the strictest intimacy June 2, 1960, in the church Saint Pothin, in Lyon. 28, rue Pierre~Corneille, Lyon~6. Feurs (Loire). A handwritten note by Silvia Henderson on the reverse side of this announcement reads: "1959. Madame Elizabeth Razuret-Duparchy (widow) called "Babeth". She has two daughters. One is married, with three little boys (the 2 eldest both deaf & dumb). The youngest is normal. The younger, aged 22, works in industrial drawings for fabrics."

Kathleen Barry told me in late Jun 1982 that Annie Henderson married a Frenchman, Mr. Dinet and they had only one child, who married a widow with three children. They did not have any children together.

Silvia Henderson's 1981 pedigree chart shows Jean Henri Dinet is the son of Hippolyte Dinet and her sister Anne "Ti" Henderson. Jean married Babeth, a widow, in 1960, but they had no children.



Silvia's 20 Apr 1958 letter to Ruth Duncan says Ti's "son John is a chemist at Feurs, about 60 miles away. It is a bigger town with a popular horse race course."

A collection of Silvia Henderson's letters to Ruth Duncan says John Thoral's parents were Annie (Ti) Thoral, nee Henderson, and Mr. Thoral. John was 65 in Dec 1969, so born about 1904. He was a chemist at Feurs, 60 miles from the dept. of Loire, France, and had retired as a pharmacist at the time of his death on 19 Dec 1969. He married Babeth. John had a cousin Hippolyte who died at age 65 in 1963.

Ruth Duncan's Duncan Family Tree probably written in 1958 shows Annie's son, John, played the flute.

Silvia's 1963 Christmas card to Ruth Duncan included a 4 Dec 1963 letter from her sister Ti who wrote that John and Babeth came to assist at the funeral [of a Dinet relative?]. John and Renee Dinet are the last elements of the family Dinet of gone-by times.

Silvia's 9 Feb 1970 letter to Ruth & Charles says their eldest sister Annie in France lost her only son just before Christmas. He had another stroke and died on 19 Dec 1969. He was 65 and a retired pharmacien. He leaves a wife, but had no children.

Jean Dinet married **Elisabeth "Babeth" Razuret-Duparchy (nee Razuret)** on 2 Jun 1960 in Lyon, Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes, France. Elisabeth was born on 29 Jan 1911. She died after Mar 2002.

A collection of Silvia Henderson's letters to Ruth Duncan says Babeth was 60 in 1971 and she and her husband John had had no children.

A letter of 1 Apr 1974 from Annie (Ti) Thoral written to her sister, Silvia Henderson, has a return address of Maison de Retraite, Feurs (Loire), France. Babeth is back at Lyon, but she hasn't seen her yet. Babeth has her family at Jarnosse and Babeth has returned from Africa. Ti would like to go to Jarnosse while Babeth and family are there at Easter.

Olivier Matray's Dec 1982 letter says his grandmother can't write me because she broke both wrists and is now staying with his parents in Lyon where she is improving.

Babeth Dinet's 8 Aug 1985 letter to me shows her address as Jarnosse ce jeu de, France.

Danielle Matray's 21 Dec 1990 letter to me says her mother is well and will be 80 on 29 Jan.

Danielle Matray's 1991 Christmas card says her mother is well and happy and happy with everyday life.

Babeth's 23 Dec 1992 letter to me says she is a great-grandmother for the sixth time. It is a boy (illegible name) born on 12 Dec. She has four great-granddaughters and two great-grandsons.

Danielle Matray's Jan 1995 letter to me says her mother has had big health problems with her heart and lungs these last four months, but she is better now.

Babeth's 31 Jan 1996 letter to me says her grandsons, who are men, are very far from her. She has three grandsons who are married and six great-grandchildren (four girls and two boys). The boys are eight and three. Her oldest daughter and son-in-law are in Santo Domingo where they went to see their youngest son, who is 34 years old. She was 85 on 29 Jan 1996. She is in good health, except for a fragile heart.



Danielle Matray's Dec 1997 letter to me says her mother is doing well and will be with them for Christmas.

Babeth's 6 Apr 1998 letter to me says she has had her 87th birthday. She has seven great-grandchildren (five girls and 2 boys). Her mother-in-law was Annie Henderson. Babeth's address is 189 rue Duguesclin, 69003, Lyon, France.

Danielle Matray's 1998 Christmas card to me says her mother will spend a few days in Paris with Jeanne and her husband for Christmas and also will stay at one of Danielle's nephews with the other great-grandchildren.

Babeth's 20 Apr 1999 letter to me thanks me for a silver necklace I sent her. Her address is the same as in 1998.

Babeth's 13 Jan 2000 letter to me says she will be 89 this coming 29 Jan.

Danielle's 3 Mar 2002 letter to me says the end of 2000 did not go well. Her mother broke her femur in Aug 2001. The surgery went wrong because there was a fracture of her pelvis when the doctor put on a prosthetic device on her hip causing paralysis of her foot. Then she couldn't put her foot down for two months and then retrained her foot and leg for three months. At 90 years of age, it is very hard. She walks with a walker and sometimes with a cane, but her leg is kind of crooked. She can't live by herself and now is in a retreat in Lyon to recuperate. She has a pleasant room with her furniture and paintings, her TV, her little chair and her hi-fi to listen to her disks of opera. She is well-taken care of by nice people, good food, nice decor, nice rooms and terrace for the summer and a park. She is so much better and is the best she can be, but it is not the same life and freedom she had before. She turned 91 on 29 Jan 2002. It was very hard to find a good place for her because elderly people have become the market of money. Before her present place, she spent a month in a retreat house where everything went wrong with no consideration for elderly people. What a relief it was for her to be taken out of there. Her new address is L'Hermitage--ch 519, 69004 Lyon.

Elisabeth "Babeth" Razuret was first married to a **Mr. Duparchy**. He died before 2 Jun 1960. Babeth and Mr. Duparchy had three children.

Annie, nee Henderson, also married **Louis Victor Thorat** on 21 Dec 1922 in France.

The UK, Foreign and Overseas Registers of British Subjects, 1628-1969, shows Louis Victor Thorat and Annie Dinet's marriage on 21 Dec 1922 in Yenag, RG32: Miscellaneous Foreign Returns, 1831- 1969. Louis' parents are Laurent Thorat and Michelle Maria? Angela? Vernoy? Annie Henderson was born 11 Sep 1874, the daughter of John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Sylvester [Silvester], was of Milton, Kent, England, and a widow of Pierre Hippolyte Dinet.

Kathleen Barry told me in late Jun 1982 that Annie Henderson married Mr. Thorat after Mr. Dinet had died.

A letter of 22 Feb 1989 from Symons & Gay, solicitors, in re: estate of John Henry Henderson, stated that Rosa Kate Henderson Symons died before her sister Annie. It states that Annie Henderson's husband was a Mr. Thorat, a French citizen, who died before his wife Annie died on 27 May 1974.

Mr. Thorat had a son who died before his mother and had no children.



A postcard of a colorized photo of King St., Gravesend, Kent, England



**Both photos
courtesy of
Gravesend
Historical
Society**

The Sun pub, 46 New Road, Gravesend, Kent, England. Ann Craggs Silvester was a 19-year-old barmaid here in 1871. Her uncle, Solomon Upton, was the victualler and owner.